

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Ten track mind
A profile of decathlete Daley Thompson, busy training in California for the Olympics



The taxman cometh
John P. Harris discovers there is no escape, even in France, from the Inland Revenue

Prose fines
Books reviews The Experience of Defeat by Christopher Hill and poetry by Beckett and C. H. Sissons

In to bat
Sport previews the fourth Test, England v West Indies at Old Trafford

Portfolio

There were three winners in the £2,000 Times Portfolio competition yesterday. Miss D. F. H. Tatham, of Gloucestershire, Mrs Patricia White, of Bromfield, Shropshire, and Mrs Caroline Kierman, of Ely, Cambridgeshire, will each receive £666.66p.

Portfolio list, page 16; how to play, information service, back page.

US set to nationalize ailing bank

The nationalization of America's eighth largest bank, the troubled Continental Illinois National Bank, was expected by banking sources in Washington to be announced this week. It is believed that the unexpected move will involve a \$4.5bn (£3.4bn) rescue package, the largest in US history. **Page 15**

£10bn to charity

Charities are estimated to have received £10bn during the past financial year, equivalent to a twentieth of the gross national product. **Page 3**

Chemist's role

A bigger role in dispensing medical advice and information as well as prescriptions has been proposed in a pharmacists' charter immediately attacked by doctors. **Page 3**

Dissident freed

Andrzej Gwiazda, Lech Walesa's former second-in-command, was freed under Warsaw's amnesty. **Warsaw joy, page 6**

Political choice

All chairmen of state industries should be chosen initially because they are "wholly sympathetic" to government aims, the Centre for Policy Studies says in a report. **Page 2**

Howe mission

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, leaves today for Hongkong and Peking in an effort to give fresh impetus to talks on the territory's future. **Page 5**

Mirror payoff

Mr Clive Thornton, former chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers, may get a golden handshake of nearly £300,000 under his five-year contract with Reed International. **Page 15**

Leader page 13

Letters: On the NHS, from Mr M. Meacher; MP's injunctions, from Sir David Napley; imported cars, from Mr R. A. P. King.

Leading articles: Israel; Commercial broadcasting; Passports. **Restores, pages 10-12**

Early days yet for a mini-budget; Poland's future after the release of political detainees; social divisions confirmed in Israel's elections. **Spectrum, the hanging judges, Wednesday**

Page: Junior gamblers. **Obituary, page 14**

Miss Vera Nemchinova, Mr Anthony Sharp. **Classified, pages 21 to 26**

La crème de la crème: Property.

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Working miners in secret campaign for a return to pits

By Paul Routledge and Tim Jones

As miners' leaders dig in for a confrontation lasting "beyond any date the Government can set", dissident pitmen from Nottinghamshire are touring the coalfields in an attempt to end the 20-week-old strike.

A series of secret talks has been held in London and at 12 coalfields, aimed at forming a strategy for a widespread return to work by reluctant strikers. It is hoped to agree on a date when all miners who want to work will report for duty.

The initiative was disclosed in South Wales, where local National Union of Mineworkers officials dismissed it as the work of cranks.

But a senior National Coal Board source in London said: "If it turns out to be an effective move, we would obviously welcome it."

Board officials are privately sceptical that the movement will achieve anything, although its aim to set a common date on which those who want to work will turn up at the pit gate all over the country is regarded as practical.

It would dissipate the union's picketing strength, but police resources would also be heavily stretched.

The plan has been formulated by a working Nottinghamshire miner, known only as "Silver Birch", because he does not wish to be identified. He has already received threats that his daughter will be raped, his son beaten up and his house burnt.

He said that the move, which has the backing of a coordinating committee in Nottinghamshire, was being made to help the thousands of miners he believes are frightened to return to work because of intimidation.

He said: "We don't want to break the NUM, but to make it more democratic. The real enemy of the union is the Marxist leadership."

One South Wales miner said: "The aim is to 'bury' Arthur Scargill. The hardship being caused is terrible and pathetic. Hundreds of men in South Wales want to return to work but dare not because of intimidation. I listen to the stories of hardship and suffering and feel like crying. But there is nothing we can do about it so far."

The plan in South Wales is initially for men to turn up for work at ten pits in the hope that the action will encourage others to cross the picket line.

"Silver Birch", who has been using his fortnight's holiday to travel throughout Britain, said that the initiative was also aimed to show that miners who wanted to work were not on their own.

Although most pits in South Wales originally decided against joining the strike, they fell into line when ordered to do so by their leaders and because of the strong reluctance to cross picket lines.

"Silver Birch" said that the London meeting, the first national gathering of the return-to-work group, had been attended by miners from Nottinghamshire, Lancashire, Staffordshire, North and South Wales, Warwickshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Scotland, Kent and North and South Yorkshire.

Mr Scargill yesterday indicated that his executive will tomorrow brush aside the coal board's latest peace proposals and continue the action for many more weeks.

He said on TV-am: "If Mr Peter Walker says they can go on to a certain date, I am quite certain we can go on beyond that and win the strike."

The Secretary of State for Energy has told MPs that coal stocks are sufficient to last until early 1985 before there would be any power cuts.

Mr Scargill ruled out acceptance of the coal board's latest draft settlement, put forward during talks with the union last week. "There is nothing on the table to accept or reject," he argued.

"If the NCB had not insisted on economic conditions (for pit closures) with the use of the word 'beneficial' we would have had an embryo of a settlement on the table."

At Port Talbot yesterday a mass picket of 500 miners and their wives failed to prevent convoys of lorries from carrying coal and iron ore to Llanwern steelworks.

Five lorries had their windcreens smashed by missiles and pickets scuffled with the police, who arrested 34 people including seven women.

At Llanwern the police made five arrests and condemned the pickets' tactic of setting fire to the under-dry roadside verges, which caused thick smoke to engulf the M4.

Scotland's biggest colliery, Bilton Glen, near Edinburgh, was again the scene of violence as 600 pickets clashed with the police yesterday. The confrontation ended with 33 pickets being arrested. Three police officers were slightly injured and one picket received mouth-to-mouth resuscitation from a policeman.

Drift back, page 2

Haggling starts over Israel coalition

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The political process of forming a new Israeli government began yesterday with both the ruling right-wing Likud coalition and the opposition Labour Party opening internal talks with the smaller parties, in an effort to put together a coalition with a viable majority.

The urgency of their task was underlined by a 24-hour ban by the Bank of Israel on all foreign currency transactions while measures were drawn up to staunch the continuing flow of shekels into US dollars.

Panic buying of basic foods was reported in anticipation of big price rises, and Israel Radio suggested a large devaluation could be imminent.

Analysts predicted the haggling could take weeks because of the inconclusive result of Monday's poll, which with more than 95 per cent of votes counted, gave Labour 45 seats and the Likud 41, both well short of the 61 needed for a majority in the Knesset.

There were predictions that the main blocks would have to pay a high price to the religious parties for their support.

There was also a strict observance of Jewish laws and big grants to religious educational institutions. The prospect caused anger on the Israeli left, whose

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Community passport in 1987

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Eva Jaafar, the woman alleged to have extracted secret signals from an RAF man in Cyprus with the lure of sex and the threat of blackmail, yesterday appeared at the Central Criminal Court to defend "the most serious charge" any individual could face.

Mrs Jaafar, 31, flew from Beirut at the weekend to give evidence for Senior Air-craftman Paul Davies, aged 21, who has pleaded not guilty to three charges under the Official Secrets Act of passing information to Mrs Jaafar last September.

Yesterday Mrs Jaafar, who the Crown claims worked on behalf of another undisclosed spy, spent three hours in the witness box. At times close to tears she told the court she had come to Britain "to clean up my name".

Newspaper reports of the trial had destroyed her family, her husband had started divorce proceedings and she feared she would lose her three daughters.

She denied any sexual relationship with Mr Davies apart from times when "he put his arm around me and kissed me on my face, telling me how happy he is or telling me goodbye or hello".

Later, during cross-examination, Mrs Jaafar, who is Hungarian by birth and married to a Lebanese businessman, said she knew a man identified by the prosecution in a session in camera earlier in the case. The man's name was passed to Mrs Jaafar on a piece of paper and Mr Kenneth Richardson, for the prosecution asked her about him.

Mrs Jaafar said she had met him when she and a lawyer were dealing with setting up an offshore company in Cyprus for her husband. Mr Richardson said: "Did you know that same gentleman was an intelligence agent?" Mrs Jaafar said she did not. She laughed and the counsel asked her why. She

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Mrs Jaafar in London yesterday. Relationship with airman was "just friendship" (Photograph: Murray Job)

Woman in spy case speaks for airman

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

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Gas cost pegged for rest of year

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Gas prices in Britain will remain unchanged until next January and will rise then only if the pound falls against the dollar or world oil prices rise. Natural gas, like North Sea oil, is always priced in United States dollars.

British Gas, which announced record profits of £668m yesterday, called its financial performance outstanding and said that prices to the consumer were under control because of the internal efficiency programme being carried out.

Sir Dennis Rooke, the chairman of British Gas, said: "At the moment we are in the middle of an annual financial review. When that is complete the prospects for tariffs should be clearer."

"All I will say is that we have no firm plans in relation to the size and timing of the next tariff increase. It will certainly not come before January 1985."

"And you should not infer from that that it will come in January. The longer we leave it, and the smaller we can make it, the happier both we and our customers will be."

British Gas achieved its profits of 5.3 per cent on a turnover of £5,422m after being set a 4 per cent profit target by the Government during a year when it clashed with Whitehall on at least five important issues.

Those were pricing, the sale of the Wyth Farm onshore oil field, the sale of its North Sea oil assets, its contract with the Norwegian state oil company to buy gas from the Sleipner field, and on a consultancy investigation into efficiency.

Sir Dennis said: "One of our first successes as an exploration operator was the Wyth Farm oil field. Our share of the licence was sold in May 1984. In the course of 1983 our present and prospective North Sea oil interests were transferred to the Government, who formed them into Enterprise Oil."

"We did not wish to lose those assets, but there is little more to be said except that none of the receipts from these sales will be of direct benefit to British Gas or its customers."

Targets next year just before their members face elections. All but two of the councils to be capped are Labour-run, and most will have their spending for next year pegged at this year's level.

But three will be allowed to spend at only 98.5 per cent of this year's level. They are Greenwich, the Inner London Education Authority, and the GLC, chosen because of their exceptional spending growth.

But the GLC also faces exceptional government action against what Mr Jenkin called "asset stripping" by its Labour group of councillors. The Bill to abolish the GLC and the six English metropolitan county councils will include a backdating clause which will enable ministers to cancel transfers of assets by the threatened authorities to councils which will not survive.

Although the clause will not become law until next year it will cover all such spending from tonight. Ministers will be able to order repayment with interest to the councils which sold the assets in the first place. The Government move has blocked transfers of £25m

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Jenkin's rates blow to London

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

Eighteen English councils will have their rates capped next year while many others will be given more generous spending targets in government spending plans announced yesterday.

The main surprises in the package announced by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, were the harshness of measures directed at the Greater London Council and the exceptional spending leeway given to some Conservative authorities outside London.

The shape of the Government's measures was as expected: rate capping will be aimed mainly at the inner cities while many Conservative-controlled county councils will be given more favourable spending

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Shake-up in appointments to state industry boards proposed by 'think tank'

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Abolition of the Public Appointments Unit, which costs the taxpayer £250,000 a year, a greater reliance on ministerial patronage and measures to attract entrepreneurs to the boards of nationalized industries are among the key proposals in a study published today by the Centre for Policy Studies.

The centre, a right-wing "think tank" established in 1974, says that in future all chairmen of state industries should be chosen initially because they are wholly sympathetic to the aims and objectives of the Government.

It wants all chairmen to be part-time and non-executive, with the day-to-day management of the business the responsibility of a chief executive. Members of the boards of state corporations should mostly be non-executive, thereby, in the view of the centre, less prone to political interference and exposure to public criticism.

"Indeed, the desire to serve the common weal appears to be present in even the most hard-headed industrialist as long as this does not conflict with his career prospects."

The report says that the Public Appointments Unit, set up by the Cabinet Office in 1975, maintains an active list of about 5,000 names of those who might be candidates for a nationalized industry top job.

The unit employs eight people and what is described as the oldest micro computer in Whitehall, and its information includes confidential details and comments from others on a person's previous performance in present or past jobs.

But, the centre's report says, the unit has been criticized widely and is "almost entirely passive in the way it accumulates names and data". It is even possible for people to remain on the list years after their death.

The unit's activities are often duplicated by Whitehall depart-

ments and in any case ministers may have their favoured candidates. "In some cases these may be known to him personally or they may be recommended by friends or colleagues of like mind. It is undoubtedly the case that several of the best appointments in recent years have been made in this way."

In the view of the centre, those include Mr Ian MacGregor at the National Coal Board, Sir Walter Marshall at the Central Electricity Generating Board, Mr Philip Jones at the Electricity Council, Lord King at British Airways and Mr Graham Day at British Shipbuilders.

The report further recommends that short-term secondment of experts from the private industrial sector should be encouraged and that all members of state industry boards should be given proper contracts of employment and clear terms of dismissal.

Which Direction? (Centre for Policy Studies, Wilfred Street, London SW1E 6PL, £4.50).

Women fail to halt cruise convoy

The fourth cruise missile convoy left the Greenham Common airbase in Berkshire at last night's midnight and was believed to be heading for the sea on Salisbury Plain.

The women peace campaigners, who were prevented from impeding the convoy's progress by police who surrounded their camp. But they were able to alert other disarmament campaigners through a telephone net work which marked the convoy's progress from Greenham to Tidworth Barracks and on to Salisbury Plain.

The Ministry of Defence said the convoy was not carrying live missiles.

Members of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament yesterday reacted with a new tactic, a telephone blockade. Members from CND's 1,000 branches in Britain were ringing the Ministry of Defence in London, their MPs and the airbase in an effort to inundate switchboards.

Claims by two peace protesters that they spent a week inside the perimeter fence of Greenham Common airbase have not been substantiated by the evidence, the Government said yesterday.

Parliament, page 4

Research cell bank opens

The National Collection of Animal Cell Cultures, the largest animal cell bank in Europe, was inaugurated yesterday at the former gun warfare laboratory at Porton Down, Wiltshire.

The £500,000 centre will store valuable cell lines, needed for research such as developing new drugs, in cold and sterile conditions. Specimens will come from industry, universities and medical schools.

Rebuke for Labour MP

Mr Tony Banks, the Labour MP for Newham North West, was yesterday given a mild rebuke by the Select Committee of Privileges.

The MP had told the Commons on June 12 that he would seek "retribution" against any London Conservative MP voting for a Greater London Council Bill.

Mansion sold

The six-man syndicate which won an Irish mansion with a £175 raffle ticket has sold it for more than £500,000. Mr Barney Curlew, a millionaire gambler, has been jailed for three months for organizing the illegal raffle to sell Middleton Park, co Westmeath.

Assault charge

Michael Batt, who wrote the "Wombles" song, was remanded on bail yesterday charged with assaulting his former wife. Batt, aged 33, of Paddington, west London, told Marylebone magistrates court that he wanted to be tried at Crown Court and was remanded until August 21 for committal proceedings.

Dartmoor treks

Up to six prisoners at a time from Dartmoor have been taking part in five-hour treks of up to 10 miles across the moor, accompanied by a prison officer with a radio.



Louise Bleriot (top left), whose epic flight will be marked today by Mr Patrick Lindsay (top right) in a replica of the Bleriot craft (above)

Replica Channel flight today

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

Two historic cross-Channel occasions are celebrated today: Bleriot's first ever sea flight 75 years ago in 1909 and Cockrell's first hovercraft crossing 25 years ago in 1959.

Louise Bleriot, whose epic flight will be marked today by Mr Patrick Lindsay (top right) in a replica of the Bleriot craft (above)

He vividly recalls the two-hour crossing in his little "flying saucer", a trip he nearly missed. The 3.5-ton SRN1 is now in the Science Museum.

The manufacturer, Saunders-Roe, wanted to shut him out because it had taken over the project by then.

But he turned up in his car, scrambled on board with the help of Commander Peter

Lamb, the pilot, and crossed on deck, four feet from the open exchange.

Mr Christopher will miss today's celebration too, when a 400-passenger SRN4 will beach at Dover on the spot where he landed 25 years ago.

Bleriot's epic will be commemorated by Mr Patrick Lindsay, a director of Christie's and a veteran racing enthusiast, with a 30-minute crossing from Calais to Dover in replica of Bleriot's craft at 6am.

Naval docks 'should compete'

An all-party Commons committee suggested yesterday that outside competition may be needed if Britain's Royal Naval dockyards were to be made more efficient.

The Commons Public Accounts Committee accepted that the Navy's primary concern was to ensure the operational readiness of the Fleet and that the dockyards had to fulfil various requirements.

But the committee suggested that the financial arrangements for the dockyards should be reconsidered so the Navy had a better idea of the cost of the services it wanted.

Its report said there were proposals to refit warships at private yards later this year as a basis for comparison.

The committee pointed out that as a result of the 1981 Defence Review only the Devonport and Rosyth dock-

yards would remain open at the end of this year.

The committee questioned the delays in taking firm action to improve organisation and finance in the dockyards. It said the findings of previous studies confirmed the need to improve financial control and accountability.

The report said: "Having due regard to operational needs, ways have to be found to bring commercial disciplines into the dockyards, supported wherever possible by the introduction of effective outside competition."

The committee accepted that the specialized nature of warship refits and repairs made it difficult to achieve efficient dockyard operation and close control of costs. In many cases, particularly on major refits, the full extent of the work involved could not be determined until after it had started.

Anger over refusal of Poussin

By Our Sale Room Correspondent

The Government's refusal to accept Professor Anthony Blunt's Poussin painting, "Rebecca at the Well", was dubbed a "mistaken political judgement" by a leading art historian yesterday.

The painting had been offered to the nation in lieu of capital taxes on the estate, by Mr William Gaskin, Professor Blunt's companion and beneficiary. It was turned down on the grounds that its acquisition by the nation was inappropriate in the light of the famous art historian's activities as a Russian spy.

There was sharp reaction in the art world yesterday at the decision. It was pointed out that the acceptance of a picture in lieu of tax has never before entered the political arena. Only the artistic or "heritage" merit and the valuation are normally taken into account.

"It is more characteristic of Anthony Blunt's beloved Russia than of Britain", was one comment. "There is a picture which might be considered tainted by association with a bourgeois deviationist."

Professor Blunt bought the painting in 1932 from a London dealer for around £100. The price was not negligible at that time.

begin to roll 20 weeks ago, it is meeting fierce and stubborn opposition.

The reasons are traditional and tribal, rather than technical. Rank and file loyalty to the National Union of Mineworkers is a by-word in the labour movement, and loyalty is given by pit men and their leaders alike as the key to continuing strike solidarity in Scotland, Yorkshire, the North-east, south Wales and Kent. But it is a virtue sometimes compounded by the vice of the "intimidation of the group".

In the mining communities, pressures to conform are powerful, so the sizable section of Yorkshire miners who did not want to join the action simply stay at home and keep their objections to themselves.

When the strike is over, they

Opposition call for secrets Act reform

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The three main opposition party leaders joined forces yesterday in calling on the Government for immediate reform of section two of the Official Secrets Act, used in the prosecution of Miss Sarah Tisdall.

Miss Tisdall, aged 23, was released on Monday after serving four months of a six-month prison sentence for leaking a confidential government document on cruise missiles to *The Guardian* newspaper.

The House of Lords yesterday reserved judgment on the newspaper's appeal against court orders which forced its editor to hand back the document.

At the House of Commons Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, and the Alliance leaders, Dr David Owen and Mr David Steel united in condemning the prison sentence and the use of the Act in that way.

Mr Kinnock said the sentence was excessive and "did not fit the crime. It was not intended to fit the crime. It was a warning to all of us - whatever our political persuasions - that we had better be more vigilant and more assertive about the values of liberty if we want to sustain those standards."

He also criticized the Government's decision to prosecute Miss Tisdall alone and not *The Guardian* as indicative of "the malice and weakness which is characteristic of bullies".

Mr David Steel described excessive secrecy as "part of the British disease" and a condition which was "allowed to fester for as long as, arcane laws are misused in the name of government convenience".

The reform of the Act was long overdue, he said. The "savage" sentence on Miss Tisdall had demonstrated "the deplorable use of criminal penalties for actions which have no bearing on questions of national security".

Dr Owen called for information to be more freely available to enable good government with both "inner coherence" and "wider consent".

All three opposition leaders were launching a campaign organized by the National Council for Civil Liberties to reform the Act.

Hollis case 'rewrites history'

Mr Peter Wright, the former M15 "molehunter" campaigning for fresh investigations into Soviet penetration of the British security services in the 1960s, is to turn a dossier he has prepared into a book.

At his home in Australia - a timber shack in the hills of southern Tasmania - he told *The Australian* newspaper yesterday that if, as he believes, Sir Roger Hollis, the former director-general of MI5, was a Soviet agent, "you will have rewritten the whole history of what the Russians have done against the West, including the Cuba missiles crisis, Selt and Salt II".

The planned book, typed by Mr Wright's wife, will include an examination of the history of Soviet penetration of M15 between 1958 and 1975 - the years he was a member - and will draw the conclusion that there was a high level of Russian spying inside M15.

Mr Wright told the newspaper that in the early 1970s the security service was asked to prepare a list of people who it was thought had been recruited by the Russians in the 1930s. Working with case officers, he then whittled this down to those against whom "there was concrete evidence." "Kim" Philby, Guy Burgess, Donald Maclean and Anthony Blunt.

He said: "Several names produced by *The Sunday Times* have never appeared on either list of suspects and have not, to the best of my belief, betrayed their country."

TV-am post

The new programme controller of TV-am is to be Mr Michael Hollingsworth, aged 38, formerly senior producer at BBC TV's *Breakfast Time*.

Nottinghamshire and north Derbyshire.

The other tactic to enforce the strike, mass picketing, has also failed in the face of the huge police operation to guarantee the "right to work".

Against that background of picket counter-picketing, the drift back to work on which the Government and the board are pinning so many hopes, is making steady but unspectacular progress.

The board estimates that 60,000 people are at work in industry and asks those still out on strike: "Why don't you join them?"

The union will only concede that perhaps 35,000 or 40,000 of its 183,000 members have rejected the call to participate in industrial action.

Loans for students to be rejected

By Colin Hughes

A suggestion by university vice-chancellors and principals that the Government should reconsider introducing student loans to finance degree courses is certain to be rejected by ministers.

A report by a working party of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals revives the loans idea, even though the Government has twice shelved such schemes since 1979. The vice-chancellors suggest that the loans would be repaid by students through a special tax rate once they start work.

One ministerial source said yesterday: "This is simply not on the agenda any more." Previous schemes have been rejected because they would add too much to public spending.

Even if the bank loaned money to students for maintenance, with the Government giving a guarantee against default, it would be an addition to the public spending bill. The Government threw previous schemes out because one of the main aims of introducing student loans is to take pressure off the public purse.

Education ministers are still keen, however, to persuade the banks or other commercial institutions to run their own schemes. One possibility likely to be pursued is asking insurance companies if they would consider "endowment loans", repaid in a similar way to endowment mortgages, and backed by a life assurance policy.

The working party, chaired by Dr John Burnett, vice-chancellor at Edinburgh, estimated that up to £20m could be raised from "donations", the American term for former students, if students could be persuaded to contribute on the same scale former students do in the US.

Even that, however, would be insignificant in comparison with the £719m a year spent on student maintenance grants and fees.

New examination 'could be confusing'

School examining boards fear that the new single examination proposed to replace O levels and CSE by 1988 will be widely misunderstood by employers, parents, and pupils.

Secretaries of the GCE and CSE boards' joint council yesterday wrote to Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, saying that a "major national publicity campaign" would be needed to ensure that the grades for the new General Certificate of Secondary Education were fully understood.

Electric car

Société des Accumulateurs Fixes et de Traction (SAFT) developed the new nickel-iron battery used in the Peugeot electric car reported yesterday as part of the joint Peugeot-SAFT research programme.

Overseas selling prices

Australia \$25,000; Belgium 100,000; Canada \$25,000; France 100,000; Germany 100,000; Italy 100,000; Japan 100,000; Korea 100,000; Spain 100,000; Sweden 100,000; Switzerland 100,000; Taiwan 100,000; Thailand 100,000; UK 100,000; USA 100,000; Yugoslavia 100,000.

More offenders to get 'sharp shock'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Tougher regimes are to be introduced in all 18 detention centres after experiments in four of them. But formal drill and extra physical education will not be continued.

An official evaluation report of "sharp shocks" at Send, Surrey, and New Hall, Yorkshire, said yesterday that drill soon became an enjoyable pursuit. And compared with mundane work with an element of dirt or drudgery, aspects of physical education were positively attractive.

Announcing the extension of the programmes to other centres, Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, said yesterday that inclusion of drill and extra PE would leave less room for hard work, which in future the regime would emphasize.

Stress would be laid on parades and inspections, earlier lights out (9.30 pm instead of 10 pm), initially restricted privileges, and a brisker tempo.

Mr Brittan's announcement in a Parliamentary written reply follows findings by the Young Offender Psychology Unit that the introduction of the tougher regimes had no discernible effect on the inmates' recidivism rate. Nor were crime trends among young people apparently affected.

Ms Vivien Stern, director of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of

Offenders, said: "This misguided experiment has predictably failed in its main objective of reducing crime." The tough regimes had been sold to the public as a way of shocking young offenders out of their delinquency. In that respect they had proved singularly useless.

The Government should work instead to increase the use of constructive non-custodial measures.

Miss Sarah Cawthra, deputy director of the Prison Reform Trust, said it was strange that the Home Secretary had ignored the evidence of his own research team which showed the experiment had failed.

The Government was not prepared to accept, for political reasons, the failure of that kind of tough approach.

Mr Geoffrey Norman, secretary of the Magistrates Association, welcomed the new regimes.

Mr Brittan said that the extension of the regime to all centres may encourage young people to behave in a disciplined and acceptable way rather than sulkily and to improve their attitudes to others.

Tougher Regimes in Detention Centres. Report of an evaluation by the Young Offender Psychology Unit. (Stationery Office, £6.50).

Attacks on BA over route plan

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

British Airways was yesterday accused of irresponsible behaviour that could delay its own privatization.

As leader of the UK Airline industry, BA might have reacted to last week's Civil Aviation Authority report on route rationalization with sympathy and responsibility for its smaller brethren in the industry. Mr John Dent, chairman of the authority, said. Instead, BA's angry reaction to the possibility of losing routes to British Caledonian and other independents could delay privatization and secure something less than a maximum return for the Treasury, he declared.

Speaking at the publication of the CAA's annual report in London Mr Dent implied that BA had overreacted to the hiving off of routes which amounted to only seven per cent of BA's total. If the Government followed the CAA's advice, the state airline's privatisation price would not be greatly reduced, Mr Dent suggested. Nor would there be any great job loss as BA had suggested in the past week.

A British Airways spokesman commented last night that "any postponement of privatization or reduction in the price that may be obtained would arise only from the threat to BA contained in the CAA review."

Whether Mr Nicolas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, will go along with the CAA's recommendations is still uncertain.

Coal board's back-to-work drive evokes only a drift

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

There were 402 more miners back at work at the beginning of this week than when the last comparable count was taken at the working collieries.

The figure averages out at about a dozen men resuming their jobs at the 34 pits in the National Coal Board's survey, which was undertaken just before the latest publicity campaign. It is indeed a "drift" back to work, rather than a stampede.

A huge management effort has gone into persuading striking miners to defy their union and get coal output going again. In areas where support for the strike is weak or divided, it is yielding some notable successes; in the heartlands of pit militancy where the strike

begin to roll 20 weeks ago, it is meeting fierce and stubborn opposition.

The reasons are traditional and tribal, rather than technical. Rank and file loyalty to the National Union of Mineworkers is a by-word in the labour movement, and loyalty is given by pit men and their leaders alike as the key to continuing strike solidarity in Scotland, Yorkshire, the North-east, south Wales and Kent. But it is a virtue sometimes compounded by the vice of the "intimidation of the group".

In the mining communities, pressures to conform are powerful, so the sizable section of Yorkshire miners who did not want to join the action simply stay at home and keep their objections to themselves.

When the strike is over, they

Coal board's back-to-work drive evokes only a drift

will have to work with the activists. "Some would like to go back tomorrow," a branch official said. "They do not because of fear of repercussions from the lads."

In areas such as north Derbyshire, where the board is concentrating its "back to work" campaign with personal letters, telephone calls and home visits, there are also cases of direct physical intimidation: bricks through the windows of one working miner in Shirebrook; shouts of "who will look after your wife while you are down the pit?" to others.

Not surprisingly, some men who want to go back have decided that such pressures are intolerable, and have yielded.

Ironically, in the wake of the High Court action over new union disciplinary

procedures, the so-called "star chamber" courts, the miners who do go back have nothing to fear, either from the notorious national rule 51, or area punishment provisions.

The High Court in Manchester has ruled that areas cannot call an official strike, and since the union cannot do so without a ballot, no union member can be disciplined for going to work.

Moreover, the board has promised that suspension or expulsion from the union will not be grounds for dismissal.

The importance of the union call is due largely to the litigation of its working members, who have successfully used the courts to block threats of punishment in Lancashire, north Wales, Staffordshire,

Christie's figures			
	No of sales	1983/1984	% increase on 1982/1983
King St	284 (250)	134,328	48
St James's	98 (61)	22,262	27
Glasgow	102 (59)	4,746	30
Robson Lowe (stamps)	62 (63)	5,178	-8
UK SALES	1003 (1016)	167,234	42
USA	255 (229)	158,085	72
Europe	130 (137)	25,267	25
WORLD SALES	1438 (1382)	350,586	53

* Including £16.1m negotiated sales to the nation

Pharmacists want bigger role in treating and advising patients

By Thomson Frentice, Science Correspondent

Far-reaching changes in the services provided by chemists' shops including consulting areas where patients could receive medical advice, were proposed by a pharmacists' association yesterday.

The pharmacists want a bigger role in dispensing advice and information as well as prescriptions. They would like to provide a 24-hour service, to be empowered to write prescriptions in emergencies, and to provide visits to patients, particularly the elderly and the mentally and physically disabled.

However, the British Medical Association said that some of the plans were "not in the best interests of the patient".

They have been drawn up by

the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee, which represents nearly 10,000 pharmacists.

"We believe it is essential to increase the advisory and counselling role of the pharmacist, which would result in a significant saving in medical time and drug costs," it says.

In a "pharmacists' charter" which is being sent to every MP and will be the basis of talks between the committee and the Department of Health and Social Security in September, the committee argues a case for extending the role of pharmacists in providing health care. It says that patients should be able to obtain repeat prescriptions direct from chemists' shops, which should be providing a 24-

hour service, and that legislation is required to allow pharmacists to provide emergency supplies of drugs under the National Health Service, as is allowed within the private medicine sector.

"The idea that the pharmacist should be able to prescribe separately from the doctor would not be in the best interests of the patient," a spokesman for the British Medical Association said.

"The overall care of the patient needs to remain in the doctor's hands to ensure consistency of treatment." He added that doctors and pharmacists "need to have a close relationship" in providing the best care for the patient.

Wife jailed for drug smuggling

The wife of a Zambian government official and her niece were jailed at Wolverhampton Crown Court yesterday for smuggling cannabis into Britain.

Mr Wilson Chakulya, of Zambia's ruling central committee, travelled to Britain with his wife Susan Chakulya, aged 37, without knowing she had cannabis worth £30,000, the court was told.

She admitted illegally importing 14.7 kilos of the drug through Heathrow airport.

Mr Richard Wakerley, QC, for the prosecution said Chakulya had been approached by Doreen Chishimba, aged 24, here niece, who was studying in Britain and lived in Camden Town, north London.

Mr Robert Solomon, for Mrs Chakulya, said her part in the operation was no more than a courier.

Chishimba was the friend of Alistair Ward, aged 34, businessman of The Heronry, Wightwick, Wolverhampton, a former vice-chairman of Rotherham United Football Club.

Ward was described as the centre of the drug smuggling operation, which also involved Brian Southall, aged 46, a self-employed haulier of Laurel Road, Dudley, West Midlands. Judge Stuart-White sentenced Chakulya to two years in prison. Chishimba was sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment. Ward was jailed for three years for smuggling and nine months, for passport forgery. Southall was jailed for two years.

Equity chief wins South Africa battle

The actor Derek Bond survived two attempts yesterday to oust him as the new president of Equity, the actors' union, because of his decision to work in South Africa.

Mr Bond is to star in J. B. Priestley's *An Inspector Calls* in front of desegregated audiences in Durban and other cities in Natal. His decision to go to South Africa caused a furore in Equity, with many members saying the visit was against union policy.

But Equity's council, the union's ruling body, threw out two motions calling on Mr Bond to resign as president. Equity policy is to advise members not to work in South Africa, but leaves it to the individual to decide.

Majority of workers now 'white collar'

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

Most British workers now do white-collar jobs. New figures from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS) show that traditional working class jobs involving manual labour in factories or on building sites are declining faster than ever. Nearly a third of the labour force is now professional or in managerial positions.

In 1981 the work force was evenly split into white and blue collar jobs. By last year, when OPCS conducted its latest survey, 51 per cent of those in work had white-collar jobs and 46 per cent did manual work (the rest of the labour force either works abroad or has unidentifiable jobs).

Other trends detected by the statisticians in recent years include the growing number of men aged more than 50 who

simply drop out of the labour force, presumably because jobs are harder to find.

Unmarried women, too, seem to be looking for work with less frequency than before although married women, 50 per cent of whom are economically active, show no change in their willingness to work outside the home.

For the unemployed, the survey found the primary means of finding work to be registering at a Jobcentre or other government office.

Most of the unemployed women, however, said they looked for work mostly through answering newspaper advertisements and studying the "situations vacant" columns.

Only a negligible number of the unemployed thought it worth while advertising themselves in newspapers.

Age gap means the old will need more state aid

By Our Social Policy Correspondent

Unless men are willing to take more responsibility for looking after elderly relatives, increasing numbers of old people will become dependent on state social services.

Already the pool of unmarried or non-working married women able to care for the elderly at home is shrinking. By the middle of the next decade trends in divorce and family life could mean unprecedented numbers of elderly people who are unable to look after themselves but who lack near relatives to care for them.

Those projections are published today by the Family Policy Studies Centre. It claims that Britain takes for granted a "hidden army" of women, who look after their elderly kin

at home with minimal support from the Government.

The centre points to cumulative changes in work, residence and marriage patterns "all of which may decrease the probability of a near female relative being available to undertake caring functions".

By 1991, the number of people aged 65-plus living alone in Britain is likely to increase by some 285,000; there will be substantial extra numbers of those too frail to climb stairs or attend to their daily needs. The ratio of elderly people to women aged 50-59 (the group most likely to care for aged relatives) is worsening.

The *Forgotten Army* (Family Policy Studies Centre, 3 Park Rd, London NW1 6BX; £3.50).

£300m bid for Brooke Bond

Tate & Lyle aims for a perfect blend

By Michael Prest

If Tate & Lyle succeeds in its £300m bid for Brooke Bond, the sugar we stir in our tea or coffee to go with Fry Biscuits and Haywards pickles could all come from the same company.

The purpose of this attempt to merge two companies which embrace a supermarket shelf of household names is to create a new food multinational whose interests will cover every stage from plantations to packaging.

Tate is one of the world's biggest refiners of cane sugar and its huge, rambling refinery

at Silverton in the East End of London can process more than a million tonnes of raw sugar a year.

But Tate also controls subsidiaries in central America and the Caribbean, Africa, the United States and Canada, south-east Asia, Scandinavia and continental Europe, which grow, ship, trade, and store sugar and its by-products.

Brooke Bond, however, is even more diverse. Although its packaged teas, including the best-selling PG Tips, are its most important lines, Brooke

Bond has moved into instant coffee with such products as Red Mountain. It controls the range of Fry Biscuits and Haywards foods; owns the Barter's chain of High Street butchers; and has Oxo among its famous brand names.

The group also controls tea plantations in India and Kenya, and cattle ranches in Paraguay and Zimbabwe.

Last year Brooke Bond made pretax profits of £48.2m and Tate £57.3m. Both are expected to earn more than £70m this year.



Winning cards: Colin Baker, the Dr Who actor, presenting awards yesterday to Joy Burridge (left), aged eight, from Birmingham, who won a first prize in W H Smith's Create a Christmas Card painting competition, and Eliza Ruth Hilton, aged seven from Cambridge, who took a second prize. W H Smith will sell the cards in aid of cot death research (Photograph: Chris Harris)

Satellite channel 'in two years'

By David Hewson Arts Correspondent

A British satellite television channel, broadcasting to viewers who own a dish aerial between 30 and 40cm wide, may be only two years away.

News International, which owns *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, confirmed yesterday that it is negotiating to place its Sky Channel service on a new French satellite, TDF 1, due to go into operation in 1986, about two years before the joint Independent Television/BBC direct broadcast satellite goes on air.

If Sky's English-language service goes out on TDF 1, it will be available to cable television services throughout Britain and to anyone in the southern half of the country who owns a small private dish aerial, if the Government allows individuals to receive the station.



French satellite coverage

Flexible pub hours backed by Brittan

By Jeremy Warner

Brewers are becoming increasingly convinced that the Government is prepared to back the introduction of flexible and extended public house licensing hours in England and Wales.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, is understood to have told representatives of the Brewers' Society that he is broadly in favour of legislation to alter substantially the 69-year-old drink laws, but the society must first show that there is public support for the move.

Mr Charles Tidbury, chairman of the society, said yesterday that with members of the licensed trade stepping up the campaign for flexible hours,

he had hopes that a government-backed Bill could be on the parliamentary agenda by autumn next year.

That could mean that the licensing system adopted in Scotland, which has been operating flexible and extended drinking hours since 1976, could be mirrored in the rest of Britain by the end of next year.

Mr Tidbury was speaking in London after the annual meeting of Whitbread, the brewing company of which he is chairman.

The Home Office has said that it will reconsider the issue when the results of a Scottish Office survey on experience north of the border since 1976 are published next spring.

Software 'on tap' for shops

By Bill Johnstone Technology Correspondent

High street retailers of microcomputers will have hundreds of computer programs on tap without having to invest millions of pounds in stock, if a service which was launched yesterday proves successful.

Those retailers will have a computer in each store with a disk containing about 1,000 programs. On command any program can be copied in seconds on to cassette, cartridge or disk.

The John Menzies retail group, which makes more than £12m a year from computer and software sales in about 120 outlets, will be the first in Britain to set up a pilot network. Five of the group's shops will have such computers and copying facilities.

Top retailers are carrying between 400 and 600 titles in stock at a cost of £2m-£8m, depending on the mix of games, education and business software. The new system, supplied by Program Express of Edinburgh, will mean that hundreds of titles can be held at minimum cost, and ensuring that shops never run out of popular items.

Two claim ownership of toucan

Two rival bird fanciers are threatening each other with legal action in a dispute over the identity and ownership of a toucan.

The proprietors of Birdworld, near Farnham, Surrey, say the Toucan is Toby, who was stolen from their sanctuary two weeks ago. But Mrs Annette Graves, a collector, of Ruxford, near Farnham, is adamant that the bird is called Benjamin and claims she bought it for £375 the day after Toby disappeared.

Mrs Graves went to the police when she learnt that a toucan had been stolen.

After Mrs Graves told the police that she bought Benjamin from a man she arranged to meet in a picnic area near the M3, the bird was taken back to the sanctuary. But because it could not be positively identified, the police decided it should be returned to Mrs Graves.

Minutes before detectives supervised the handover, staff at Birdworld "marked" the toucan with purple dye.

Now both parties are threatening to take court action - Birdworld's proprietor, Mr Robert Harvey claiming ownership and Mrs Graves alleging criminal damage.

Sharp drop in private donations to charities

By Robin Young

Charities are bigger business in Britain than the car trade, and are estimated to have received £10b, equivalent to a twentieth of the gross national product, in the financial year 1983-84.

Yet while there has been a large increase in fees and grants paid to support charitable social welfare projects from public funds, companies' contributions to charity are failing to keep pace with increased profits and in real terms the value of private donations to charity has tumbled.

Statistics published yesterday by the Charities Aid Foundation suggest that charities in Britain now have investments worth at least £20b, employ some 200,000 people and, despite the recession, have maintained an annual growth rate in their income well into double figures. One in three of the population engaged in voluntary charitable work during the year.

The figures suggest that, while increasing their income, charities are becoming increasingly dependent on non-voluntary sources of income, including fees and charges for their services and higher levels of statutory grants.

In 1975 charitable contributions from private individuals amounted to nearly a third of charities' total income. Now they are estimated to account for little more than a tenth, and the Charities Aid Foundation concludes that unless the balance between public and private money is restored, the private sector will come to believe that charity has been "hijacked" by the State.

The foundation estimates that fees and grants paid to charities from statutory sources are now as much as £1bn a year. In 1975-76 they were £175m, and in 1981, £576m.

Urban programme funding for charitable projects increased fourfold over the past four years, from £18m in 1979-80 to an estimated £68m in the current year.

The Greater London Council's funding has also quadrupled, and will exceed £40m this year. In 1982-83 the six metropolitan authorities together paid a total of £37½m.

Local authorities' use of charities' services varies widely. Kent spent nearly £6m on social welfare charities last year, while Dyfed and Cambridgeshire claimed to have made no fee payments at all to voluntary organisations.

Company contributions to charities increased by only £3m in 1983 when pretax profits rose by nearly £4bn.

Charity Statistics 1983-4 (Charities Aid Foundation, 48 Pembury Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 2JD, £9.60 plus 80p p&ps).

TOP TEN CHARITIES 1983

	Total voluntary income £000	Total income £000
National Trust	22,316	48,134
Cancer Research Campaign	17,575	19,112
Imperial Cancer Research	16,580	24,754
Oxfam	16,384	19,702
RNL	15,958	17,428
Save the Children	14,340	30,977
Dr Barnardo's	13,315	32,429
Save the Children	9,829	14,083
Jewish Philanthropic Ass	9,178	9,443
Held the Aged	8,984	9,785

New water restrictions

By Michael Horsnell

About seven million people in the north-west of England, normally one of the wettest parts of Britain, were told yesterday to expect new restrictions on the use of water.

With the level of water in the Haweswater reservoir in the Lake District, the third largest

Boots finds bleach in polluted shampoo

A bleach which can cause ulcerations in high concentrations has been found in one of the shampoo bottles contaminated by animal rights protesters, Boots said yesterday.

A spokesman said hypochlorite had been discovered. In low concentrations it can cause extreme irritation of the eyes and perhaps ulcerations, he said. Chlorine, which can cause bronchial spasms in people suffering from asthma, was also found.

Boots found a contaminated bottle of Sunsilk shampoo at three stores in Leeds, Southampton and London, after a warning from the Animal Liberation Front. The company withdrew thousands of bottles and urged customers to return any bought recently.

Boots said: "We presume there were only three bottles. All other stock will be checked before it is considered for resale."

Forensic scientists are examining two of the contaminated bottles. A police spokesman said those responsible for polluting the shampoo could face life imprisonment.

Elida Gibbs, the manufacturer of Sunsilk, last night denied using live animals to test its shampoos.

Plea to help illegitimate

A children's rights group has urged Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, to abolish the legal disadvantages of the illegitimate.

Each year nearly 100,000 children in Britain are born outside marriage. The Children's Legal Centre wants an end to the situation which prevents children inheriting from certain relatives, and means they have no legal father, and are unable to acquire British citizenship through their father.

£¼m sponsor

Chichester Festival Theatre is to receive a £250,000 sponsorship from Nissan, the Japanese car makers. A spokesman for the company, whose British headquarters is in Worthing, West Sussex, said they were donating the money over the next five years, because the theatre was an important cultural asset in the county.

Dutch treat

Virgin Atlantic's plan for a cut-price air service between London and The Netherlands was approved by the Civil Aviation Authority yesterday. Mr Richard Branson, the airline's owner, says the fare for the service, due to start in the autumn, will be about £20 one way.

Jail exhumation

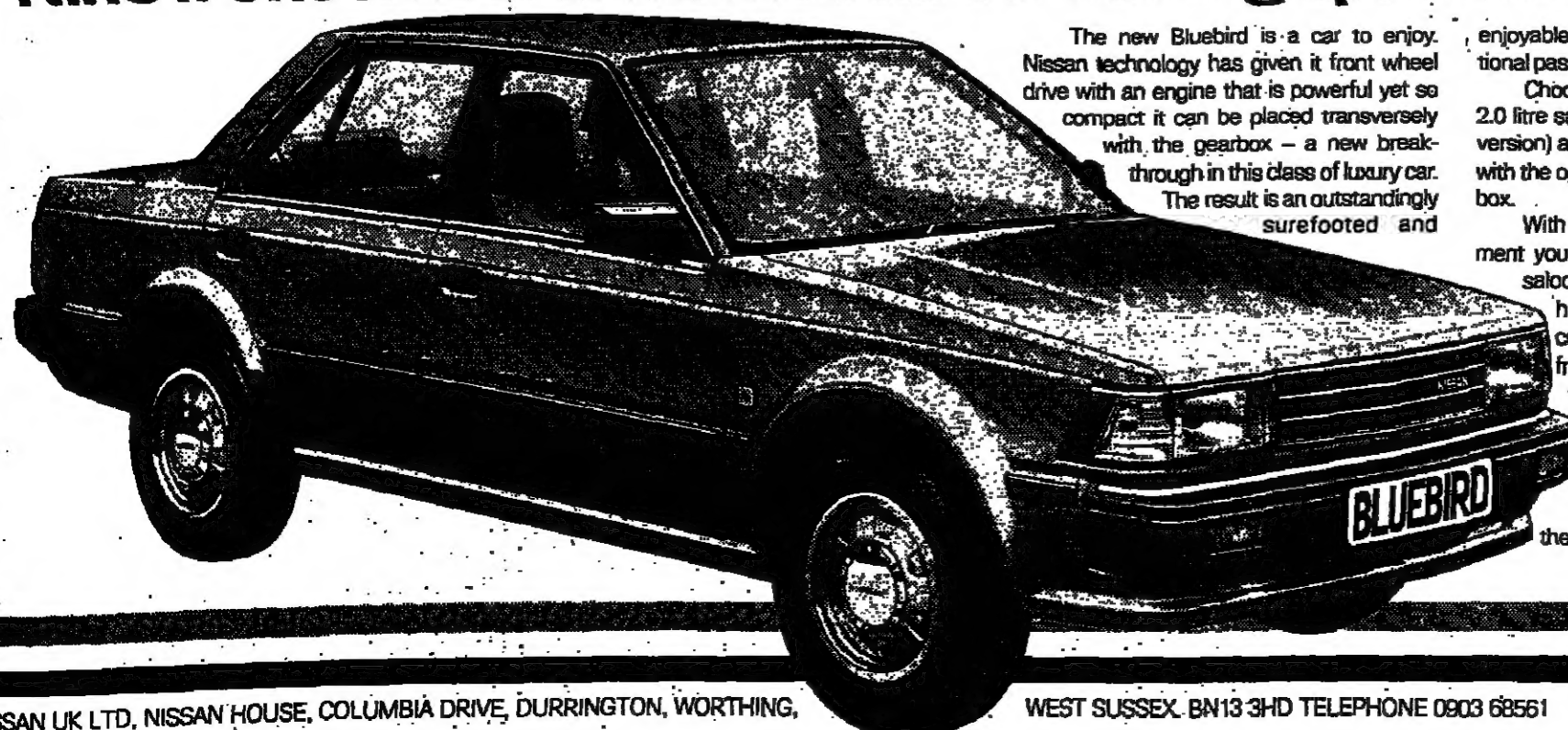
The remains of 10 executed murderers are to be exhumed at Gloucester prison to make way for a £2m extension scheme. Construction of a new gatehouse and administration block is due to start in September.

Siege man jailed

James Thomas Kenny, aged 24, who kept police at bay for an hour by shooting at them with an air-rifle, was jailed for six years at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday.

The all-new Bluebirds.

Nine front wheel drive models combining spacious luxury with driver appeal.



The new Bluebird is a car to enjoy. Nissan technology has given it front wheel drive with an engine that is powerful yet so compact it can be placed transversely with the gearbox - a new breakthrough in this class of luxury car. The result is an outstandingly surefooted and

enjoyable driving performance with exceptional passenger space and comfort.

Choose from a range of six 1.8 litre and 2.0 litre saloons (including a 121 mph Turbo version) and three estate cars, most of them with the option of manual or automatic gearbox.

With them comes the luxurious equipment you expect from Nissan's mid-range saloons. The SGL Bluebird, for example, has electric windows and mirrors, central locking, step lamps for the front doors, rear seat panels that fold forward giving access to the boot and many more thoughtful touches for which Nissan is famous. Most models have a stereo cassette to complement the radio.

With every new Nissan we give

you a 100,000 mile/3 year warranty reflecting our confidence in Nissan's high quality - which means too that the new Bluebird, like its predecessors, will hold its value exceptionally well when you come to re-sell. See the new Bluebirds at your Nissan dealer. Stylish, luxurious, dependable technology from Nissan. At prices from £5995

The new Bluebird range.			
Saloons:	1.8 DX	90 bhp	106 mph
	2.0 GL*	105 bhp	111 mph
	2.0 SGL*	105 bhp	111 mph
	1.8 Turbo	135 bhp	121 mph
Estates:	2.0 GL*	105 bhp	106 mph
	2.0 SGL	105 bhp	106 mph

*Automatic transmission with electronic overdrive available on these models.

NISSAN

PARLIAMENT July 24 1984

Jenkin curb on big spending councils

RATE CAPPING

The average rate increase in England should be lower next April than this year's average increase, as a result of Government action, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said in a statement including his proposals for rate support grant settlement in England for 1985-86. He also announced decisions on selective rate limitation-rate capping, including a list of 18 authorities which are being subjected to that.

In his statement, Mr Jenkin said: "I am today issuing to local authorities proposals for the main features of the RSG settlement for next year. This early announcement should give authorities plenty of time to budget sensibly in 1985/86."

It is the first time that I have been able to set out so much of the framework of the settlement so early in the year. It is also the first time that the Rates Act provisions for constraining the rates - and hence the expenditure - of local authorities have been available to the Government, which have strongly affected the overall shape of the settlement.

This year's budgets show a continuing real terms increase in the level of local authority current expenditure. The Government remains committed to the constraint of public expenditure. This is essential if we are to put the economy on a sound footing for the longer term. We must continue to seek economies.

For 1985/86, for the first time, the Rates Act enables me to start curbing the worst excesses of the highest spenders. Until now, even the lowest spenders have had to be asked to make significant savings because of the irresponsible behaviour of the minority of high spenders. The Rates Act makes it possible for me to begin to change that. As I promised at last year's settlement, it gives me the scope - within the overall continuing need for restraint - to set fairer targets for low spenders, the same target as the Government is determined to ensure that these realistic targets are not overspent, and the holdback proposals reflect that determination.

The new powers given me by the Rates Act enable me to set rate limits for the worst overspenders and thus protect their ratepayers. I am today publishing a report describing the basis of selection of authorities for rate limitation. I will select for rate capping those authorities spending more than £10m whose budgets for the current year are more than 4 per cent above their targets, and more than 20 per cent above their grant-related expenditure (GRE) settlement.

On the basis of these criteria the following 18 authorities are designated: Basildon, Brent, Camden, GLC, Greenwich, Hackney, Haringey, ILEA, Islington, Lambeth, Leicester, Lewisham, Merton, Portsmouth, Sheffield, Southwark, South Yorkshire, and Thamesdown. I am setting expenditure levels for

these authorities which will form the basis of their rate limits. In most cases they will have to contain their expenditure at the same level in cash terms as their budget for 1984-85. In the case of the three authorities which are budgeting to spend more than 70 per cent above GRE this year and which have increased their budgets by more than 30 per cent since 1981-82 I am setting expenditure levels 1½ per cent below their effective 1984-85 budgets. These authorities are the GLC, the ILEA and the London Borough of Greenwich.

The 18 designated authorities are being formally notified of their expenditure levels. I shall of course consider any representations which they may wish to make to me asking for a redetermination of their expenditure level.

This announcement is good news for ratepayers: the 18 highest spending authorities will have their spending levels controlled, furthermore, as I said during the passage of the Bill, because the Rates Act enables me to control the expenditure of the highest spenders I can set fairer targets for the low spenders, a maximum cash increase over 1983-84 budget is 3 per cent. For next year I am proposing to allow most low spenders to increase their spending by 4½ per cent over budget this year. On the best estimate of the rate of inflation over the period - the GDP deflator - this would require no further real terms cuts from those authorities. This has only been made possible by the headroom provided by rate limitation.

High spenders will have tougher targets but no authority is asked for more than a 1½ per cent cash reduction on its 1984-85 budget. These targets add up to about £21,800m, which implies an increase in current expenditure provision in excess of £300m. This takes account of the setting up of London Regional Transport on last year's basis the increase would be nearer £900m. The equivalent increase for 1984-85 was some £500m. The increase in the 1985-86 provision will be contained within the established aggregate public expenditure plans.

These targets are therefore realistic, and must not be seen as an invitation to increase spending. For that reason I am proposing much tougher holdback targets for the first percentage points of overspend.

The tariff will entail reductions in block grant equivalent to 7 pence at ratepayer level for the first 1 per cent of overspend, another 8 pence for the second 1 per cent overspend and another 9 pence will be added for each 1 per cent of spending after that.

This is a strong deterrent to overspending. But I think there will be a wide recognition - at least among Conservative MPs - of the fairness of this proposal. I am proposing a reasonable, realistic target. It is only fair in return to expect that they will be met and to take a firm line with anyone who

sees this as an opportunity to boost spending. The effect of these proposals on services provided by local authorities will depend on their ability to use resources efficiently. The Government looks to local authorities to do their utmost to contain their pay and other costs and to manage their resources in a way which ensures that the best possible value for money is obtained.

Finally, aggregate expenditure grant will be £11,700m at the same amount after adjustments as the corresponding figure for 1984/85. This represents a grant percentage of about 48.6 per cent for 1985/86, compared with 51.9 per cent this year. This continues the trend we have seen over recent years of shifting the burden of local authority expenditure away from the taxpayer and towards the ratepayer, thereby increasing local authorities' accountability. What nonsense. That from a Government which fought an election campaign on a pledge to abolish the rates altogether.

The best way to help the ratepayers of this country would be to maintain the real value of grant and to scrap the penny system altogether, not by, as he is saying in the House, the RSG in real terms by about £500m.

Four authorities he is designating today - Haringey, Portsmouth, Sheffield and Thamesdown - have increased their expenditure by less than the average for local authorities as a whole. Why are they included when the City of London is excluded, expenditure level and 247 per cent above its grant related expenditure - the worst overspend by both tests in the whole country?

His statement will provoke resistance from all councils committed to maintaining essential jobs and services. Far from saving public expenditure overall this exercise will increase expenditure by about £200m from the controlled and designated authorities will have to be set against the extra £300m the Treasury has had to cough up to buy off some of his Tory friends.

Mr Jenkin: He took no account of the aggregate targets I have announced which are 6 per cent higher than the targets I announced last year. He took no account that it allows 4½ per cent uplift for low spenders compared with 3 per cent last year, when inflation last year was about 5 per cent compared with an estimate of 4½ per cent this year.

Authorities last year above GRE faced 2½ per cent uplift on target against 5 per cent inflation, this year 3½ per cent uplift against 4½ per cent estimate of inflation.

The City consistently hits its spending target; none of the designated councils have come within 4 per cent of their targets. He has got the figures quite wrong when he talks about extra excess of £600m. What matters is, what is spent, not what appears in the public expenditure White Paper.

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rolling back the frontiers of the state. He put his figure of 4½ per cent for inflation made nonsense by recent interest rate rises? Will that not mean real cuts for all local authorities? How can he say that this is good news for ratepayers when every council exceeding the target next year will get less grant and therefore have to raise rates and cut services even just to avoid paying the heaviest-ever penalties which this Government has imposed upon local authorities?

The Secretary of State admits in his statement that this continues the trend we have seen over recent years of shifting the burden of local authority expenditure away from the taxpayer and towards the ratepayer, thereby increasing local authorities' accountability. What nonsense. That from a Government which fought an election campaign on a pledge to abolish the rates altogether.

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aggregate spending would be £400m higher than the limit I have now set for these 18 authorities. Mr Francis Pym (South East Cambridgeshire, C): How can he justify what seems to be a U-turn from the direction of trying to abolish the rates and ease the burden on the ratepayers altogether, to a direction in which the burden is to be imposed on the ratepayer and to be increased without limit?

Whatever assistance he may feel he is giving to ease the burden of the ratepayer, is that not more than offset by the reduction from 51.9 per cent to 48.6 per cent on overall targets of the rate support grant? Is that not bad news for ratepayers? Mr Jenkin: It was in response to his and other representations that we have adopted this new methodology for setting targets. I have merely announced the percentage expenditure grant for 1985-86 and there should be no assumptions made as to what might be the pattern of grant in the ensuing years.

This is not a U-turn. It continues the trend followed by successive governments since 1976 which have sought to reduce the percentage of local authorities' current spending met by the taxpayer and increase accountability to the local ratepayer.

Mr Geoffrey Rippon (Hexham, C): Will he be warned that his proposals will prove arbitrary, dangerous, ineffective and ultimately costly? There is no possibility of good news for ratepayers as long as we continue to transfer the burden from taxation to rates and tax those least able to bear it?

There is not the slightest possibility of keeping a lid on this boiling cauldron unless we have a financial structure which is comprehensible, which this certainly is not, and a system fair to all ratepayers in all parts of the country.

Mr Jenkin: I would agree to give a blueprint of the kind of system he would like to see. I would like to study it carefully. He has made no secret of his dislike for the rate capping legislation but it would have been impossible for me to have offered the target to the low spending authorities if I had not made a start on making savings on the highest spenders who have for so long been enabled to pass on the burden of their high spending to authorities who budgeted and spent responsibly year after year. I am very glad I have been able to start a trend in the other direction.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, L): The proposals have no principle, they are contrary to logic and, above all, they have no compassion because most of the people in inner city constituencies like mine have their rates paid because they have not got the money to pay.

Mr Jenkin: Having some ratepayers entitled to exemption is part of the Government's policy to ease the burden on those least able to bear it and I hope it has his support.

Mr Peter Griffiths (Purton, Portsmouth, C): Slavish adherence to a formula for places such as Portsmouth, which has a reputation for

Mr Stanley said the reference was not open to the construction that Mr Davies had put on it. The decision was exactly as had been stated by the Prime Minister - that no cruise missiles in Britain could be fired without her consent.

Mr Stanley said that for all training purposes no live missiles would be deployed. The wide conduct of the off-base training deployment was carried out in the closest consultation and liaison with the Secretary of State for Defence.

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Cunningham: A stride along authoritarian path

good housekeeping and particular social and economic problems, not least the loss of employment due to the curbing of the Naval dockyard, 25 per cent of the policy of the Government, is artificially placed within this category, from which it would be excluded by all principles of equity and justice.

Mr Jenkin: It would have been quite wrong and quite indefensible if I had sought so to manipulate the principles which would have excluded Portsmouth, bearing in mind it is spending over 5 per cent above its target and nearly 35 per cent above its GRE.

Mr Jenkin: I suggest he consults the commercial ratepayers of Sheffield who pay an overbearing proportion of the rates. They will tell him a thing or two about Sheffield rates.

Mr David Howell (Guldford, C): This whole paraphernalia of hold-back, claw-back, penalties and so on has reached the end of its useful life. The time is soon coming for a major reform of the relations between central and local government to establish them on a fairer basis and define more clearly the distribution of functions between them.

Mr Jenkin: I have on many occasions to local authority audiences and elsewhere made no secret of my wish to see an end to the target and hold-back provisions. I hope that the Government will be able to move in that direction in the next year or two.

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Speaker in clash with MP over Oman death

PROCEDURE

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) repeatedly clashed with a Labour backbencher who claimed the Oman embassy was trying to prevent publication of answers he had obtained to parliamentary questions.

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Wokingham, Lab) raised the issue on a point of order following question time. He said that over the last five months he had asked more than 120 questions in relation to Mrs Thatcher's links with Cernomen and, of late, into the death of Mr Robin Walsh.

Mr Walsh had been the subject of several written questions to the Secretary of State for Defence, for the Home Office, and the Foreign Office.

Mr Walsh (he said) died in prison in Oman. He was imprisoned and mistreated...

The Speaker then interrupted to say there was no point of order for him in the matter.

Mr Campbell-Savours: As an MP I had questions on the order paper and the replies to those questions I gave to *The Sunday Times*, *The Observer*, and Granada Television's *World in Action*. As a result of a question brought by the Oman embassy...

The Speaker: What is the point of order? Mr Campbell-Savours is abusing an opportunity. I cannot be concerned with any programme there may have been on television or answers by ministers.

Mr Campbell-Savours: The Oman embassy in taking out this action is preventing me from carrying out my duty, that was ensuring questions I raised could be published and broadcast on the British media including *World in*

British skill in getting EEC cash for jobs sets off Commission row

From Ian Murray
Brussels

Britain is doing so well out of the EEC's job-creating social fund that an embarrassing dispute has broken out inside the European Commission.

The latest commitments agreed this week - for spending by the fund show that Britain is due to receive for this year £355m of the £1,097m available. On its own, this is almost as much as has been allocated to Italy and France combined.

Italy has in the past received the lion's share of the fund, while France has always been a big beneficiary, but over the past four years Britain has inexorably increased its share.

This, in small measure, is due to the system of rebates granted to Britain for its excessive contributions to the EEC.

But the bulk of the money is now going to Britain, as the latest figures show, simply because the British authorities understand better how to apply for fund money.

The statistics for this year underline the point. They show that Britain asked for help worth £621m and was granted help worth £355m. On the other hand, France applied for £241m worth, and was only successful in getting £123m. The British applications were not only greater in number, but were more in line with Community rules.

The Italian and French

EEC SOCIAL FUND

Figures in millions of pounds

	1981	1982	1983	1984
Total commitments	670	875	1,087	1,087
UK share	122	257	318	355
Italian share	354	284	282	282
French share	194	334	487	450
Total applications	1,097	1,075	1,213	1,114
UK applications	280	548	618	621
Italian applications	355	335	335	335
French applications	462	192	260	155

commissioners noticed this trend and have demanded a full debate within the Commission on the way demanded a full debate within the Commission on the way the fund it operated, though a big reorganization of it has only just been implemented.

Signor Lorenzo Natali, an Italian commissioner, complained at a recent meeting that Britain was now getting too much of the fund's resources. There has even been suspicion that Britain is doing so well only because the Social Affairs Commissioner is Mr. Ivor Richard, the Labour Party nominee on the Commission.

Money from the fund is allocated by the social fund committee, which vets all applications for help. The committee is made up of officials from all member states to make sure that all national interests are protected.

Britain has been successful

because the Manpower Services Commission, as well as local government officers, have learnt how best to put together the kind of programme which qualifies for aid.

British local authorities, in particular, have made a point of sending delegations to Brussels to find out at first hand how the scheme operates. About 350 delegations have done this over the past four years.

Mr Richard has been very active in prompting British authorities to try out their ideas in Brussels, but he has had no way of influencing the final decision on which schemes are acceptable.

Top Commission officials say France is hampered in making suitable applications because they have to come through central government, while Italy is still having teething problems with its new employment services organization.

As a result, neither country seems to have fully understood, for example, that 75 per cent of all the fund's money now has to be sent on projects to help youth employment.

Belgium and Denmark, though relatively small beneficiaries, have both significantly improved their share of the fund by choosing projects carefully. More than anyone, Britain had understood how to play the social fund rules and has done so to the envy and annoyance of other countries.



Arafat visit: The Malaysian King, Sultan Iskandar of Johore, left, welcomes Mr Yasser Arafat to Kuala Lumpur. The Palestine Liberation Organization leader, accompanied by a delegation of 12, was beginning a three-day visit to Malaysia.

Bonn braced for pollution clash

From Michael Blyden
Bonn

In the face of vigorous opposition from West Germany's powerful environmental lobby, the Cabinet will today authorize a new coal-fired power station near the East German border to start operating without filters to reduce sulphur dioxide emissions.

Announcing this on Monday, Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the Interior Minister, said filters would be fitted later, however, and that the burning of brown coal low in sulphur in this and in two neighbouring plants would reduce emissions by 20,000 tonnes a year.

As part of a package of anti-pollution measures, Herr

Zimmermann said West Germany would also introduce lead-free petrol by 1986, and would go it alone in enforcing the use of catalyzers in cars if agreement could not be reached.

The Government has defended the starting-up of the new power plant near Bruns-

wick without filters on the ground of saving jobs.

Howe aiming to give fresh impetus to Hongkong talks

From David Bonavia, Hongkong

The forthcoming visit to Hongkong and Peking by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, is intended to "give a good shove" to the Anglo-Chinese talks in Peking on the subject of Hongkong, which were due to resume today informed sources said.

The need for such a visit was decided during the recent trip to London by Sir Richard Evans, the British Ambassador to China and head of the British delegation at the talks, and Sir Edward Youde, the Governor of Hongkong.

Last week Sir Edward said the talks were going normally and criticized speculation about obstacles to their progress.

The central issue - behind a thick fog of obfuscation by both sides - is the relative influence to be wielded by China and Britain in the period from now until 1977, when sovereignty over Hongkong is expected to revert to China.

The British-dominated Hongkong Government has published details of its plan for gradual progress towards electoral democracy in Hongkong. China has received these proposals coolly, doubtless because its own definition of democracy is very far from that of the Western world.

The tangible issue over which this disagreement has surfaced is the question of establishing a joint Anglo-Chinese commission in Hongkong to oversee progress towards internal

autonomy status over the next 13 years.

British negotiators are adamant that to sign an unsatisfactory agreement would be worse than signing none at all, and are not prepared to accept China's demand for an agreement to be reached by September as necessary or binding.

British officials do not rule out the possibility that, in the event of an impasse at the talks, they would publish details of the negotiations to date, to let the people of Hongkong know the degree of rigidity they have encountered in the Chinese position.

However, it is hoped that such drastic measures can be avoided, as they would violate the principle of "confidentiality" which Mrs Thatcher laid down as the condition for the talks nearly two years ago.

The latest sharp slide in the Hongkong stockmarket, partly linked to doubts about the political future of the territory, is considered ominous.

An element of brinkmanship is appearing, with the Chinese leadership evidently irritated at the legalistic and other concerns of Hongkong pressure groups which are holding up progress towards what Peking considers to be a very generous settlement - 50 years of capitalism and British-style legal systems, and various freedoms to which local people, unlike their kin in China, are accustomed.

UK resists plan for surplus butter sales

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

The European Commission is planning to spend money it does not have in an attempt to put political pressure on the British government. It has agreed at its Brussels meeting this week to approve costly schemes such as selling subsidized butter to Russia, the Middle East and Iran, to reduce the size of the EEC's million tonne butter mountain.

The Commission wants to start surplus sales later in the year even though the money to do it has yet to be approved, because it claims that this will save money needed to store surplus stocks in future.

The project runs totally counter to Britain's view that expenditure this year should be deferred, until extra income is made available to the Community.

Britain is on its own in this belief and Sir Geoffrey Howe came under intense pressure during both days of the Foreign Council, which ended in Brussels yesterday, to agree to spend more money now. The Commission, with its plan for cutting the butter mountain, and other ideas for storing the growing beef mountain and distilling the wine lake, has

added its weight to the argument against Britain.

Yesterday the Commission took the unusual step of fielding its Director-General for Agriculture, Claude Villain, to explain that action was necessary because the Council of Ministers, by implication Britain - had failed to meet its responsibilities by providing the money needed to ensure proper management of the common agricultural policy.

Villain emphasized that part of the agreement at last month's European summit was to ensure that the means were found to allow the common agricultural policy to function normally.

He said it was wrong to store up problems for the future by putting off payments which would help to reduce surplus stocks in future years.

Britain has refused to be stampeded by the pressure from other member states or by the Commission. Sir Geoffrey held out yesterday against any decision at this stage and the argument is to be resumed at a further budget council scheduled for September 6 to 7.

Nigerians seek Dikko extradition

Lagos (Reuters) - Nigeria will not be deterred from seeking the extradition from Britain of the fugitive politician, Mr Umaru Dikko, according to the Nigerian Foreign Minister, Mr Ibrahim Gambari.

Nigerian television last night reported Mr Gambari as saying Nigeria would concentrate on Mr Dikko's extradition before seeking the return of others exiled in Britain.

"Since the (Nigerian) Federal Government regards Dikko as its Number One enemy, his case would be dealt with first", Mr Gambari said.

The Daily Times newspaper in which the Nigerian Government has a majority interest, yesterday quoted Mr Gambari as saying Nigeria would not be discouraged by a 1967 amendment to Britain's extradition laws which made it more difficult to extradite wanted individuals.

"We are going to follow the procedure under their own Act", he said.

Mr Dikko, a leading opponent of the Nigerian military government wanted for alleged corruption, was found drugged in a diplomatic crate at Stansted airport after being snatched from his London home on July 5.

Mr Gambari said future Anglo-Nigerian relations would depend on the outcome of the trial in London of those charged with kidnapping Mr Dikko, the Daily Times reported.

Closure of border hits Niger food

Niamey (AFP) - People in northern Niger are going short of food and other basics as the border with Nigeria stays closed, according to businessmen here. But the closure of the frontier three months ago by the Lagos authorities has failed to stop smuggling, though dealings in the Nigerian currency, the naira, are now less, the sources said.

The smugglers are more active now because of the gap left by the halt to normal trade with Nigeria, the source of most consumer goods for the northern Niger people.

Business circles say they now have no sugar, beans or stock, which are popular for flavouring food. Rice is also in short supply and selling for double the Niamey price.

The massive operation to replace the naira by new notes at the end of April has not increased confidence in the Nigerian currency, which has plunged from 150 CFA francs before the changeover to 100 or even 95 CFA francs on the parallel market. Its official rate is 580 CFA francs (£1 = 574.5 CFA francs).

The new naira is so hard to come by in some areas, like Niamey's northern province of Mopti, that the old naira is still being used there, but only at the rock-bottom rate of 50 CFA francs - a two thirds loss in buying power on the pre-changeover value.

Police rest break delays killer hunt in Sweden

From Christopher Massey, Stockholm

Sweden's controversial laws governing working conditions and giving workers job security for life, which were drafted by a Socialist government in the early 1970s, have now halted a murder hunt.

Detectives investigating the brutal killings of two Dutch tourists in Lapland last week for 36 hours because they had been working non-stop on the case for more than a week, they said, and were entitled to time off under the law.

Mr Hans Olivebro, chief of police in Gallivare where the hunt is concentrated, pleaded with his men to stay on the case.

"There should be a paragraph in the law to deal with emergency situations like this", he said. "In a murder hunt every minute counts."

Detectives sent from The Netherlands continued searching for the killer who stabbed the tourists to death as they slept in their tent.

Now! A life insurance plan that can give you increasing life cover and increasing cash-in values... but which never increases in cost!

Read how Lloyd's Life Linkplan can give you protection and profit for as little as £10 per month.

With Linkplan, Lloyd's Life (the life insurance company founded by the world famous Lloyd's of London), have cleared away much of the confusion about life insurance and investment plans.

Designed for people who don't want to pick through complicated schemes, Linkplan combines the two most needed types of insurance.

First, Linkplan gives you straightforward life insurance. Simply put, if you die, we pay out to your dependants. So they have the security of knowing they'll be looked after financially.

But what about you?

Many ordinary life insurance policies simply take your money and you'll never see any of it!

That's where Linkplan scores. Because, although primarily designed to provide a lifetime of high-level life cover, your plan does acquire a cash value. This starts to build up after a period of time which depends on your present age, and you can cash it in - totally tax free after 10 years! Naturally like any such plan, the longer you leave your money in, the greater the value. In the early years, values will not be very high - but after a reasonable period you'll find you have a growing asset. The tables below show you how it works. But for full information, return the coupon.

We'll send you a Personal Illustration showing you how much you've covered for if you die... and how much you could be worth if you want to cash in your policy.

But more than that - we'll offer you the first month's cover for just £1, no matter how much you choose to pay.

HOW THE PLAN WORKS

Linkplan starts off as straightforward life insurance. Your life is immediately covered for a substantial amount, which is guaranteed for a number of years, depending on your present age. In other words, should you die within weeks, we'll pay your dependants the amount shown against the premium you choose - even if you've only paid

one or two premiums!

Then, after this guaranteed period, something very much to your advantage can happen. You carry on paying the same premiums. But your life insurance cover should start to steadily rise!

How? You see, we don't just hang on to your money. We'll be putting it to good use. After a short initial period, a high proportion of your monthly premiums goes into the Lloyd's Life Multiple Growth Fund, to build up your cash value.

After the guaranteed period, your life cover also becomes directly linked to the performance of this Fund.

And provided the fund performs as well as expected, your life protection will increase as you get older - at no extra cost to you.

Result? Your premiums bring you a guaranteed amount of life cover in the early years... and the prospect of an increasing amount later, because you benefit from our investment expertise. And your cover continues for as long as you pay premiums.

Not only that, but your plan's cash value should go on growing too! Although fund values can go down as well as up, you'll see from the table that your cash-in values over the medium to long term can be high. Thousands of pounds, in fact.

YOUR LIFE COVER

Monthly Contribution Male Age Guaranteed Life Cover Life Cover age 65 12.2% growth

£10 18 £19,652 £23,365 £131,894 35 £3,699 £3,699 £27,058 49 £4,702 £4,331 £5,770

£15 18 £30,105 £34,261 £202,052 35 £14,858 £14,858 £41,512 49 £7,203 £6,535 £10,371

£20 18 £40,557 £46,157 £272,205 35 £20,017 £20,018 £55,925 49 £9,704 £8,959 £13,972

£25 23 £41,591 £46,617 £222,577 35 £25,176 £25,177 £70,339 49 £12,205 £11,242 £17,573

£30 28 £40,182 £44,349 £171,045 35 £30,335 £30,336 £84,752 49 £14,706 £13,546 £21,174



A MAN AGED 25...

Wants protection for his wife, but also wants to see some cash from his policy. He puts £20 a month into Linkplan. He's instantly insured for £30,105 (guaranteed for 14 years). After the guarantee period, his life cover increases while his premium stays the same! In fact, at 65, his life cover is £148,519.

In the meantime, his policy is growing in value. He could cash it in at 45 and receive £9,925... and at 65, it's worth £73,570... all tax free!

A MAN AGED 35...

Wants insurance to protect his family, wants added comfort for his retirement too. He puts £30 a month into Linkplan. He's guaranteed life cover is £30,335 from day one. After 12 years, his death benefit increases but his premium stays the same.

At 65, his death benefit is £84,752. If he cashes in the plan at 55, it's worth £14,547... at 65, £37,290. All tax free!



conservative, we also show what happens if the fund grew at 6% each year - less than half the actual rate achieved.

EASY TO START

To start couldn't be simpler. Just tick the amount you wish to pay and complete all the information requested. Don't worry about a medical. If you're between 18 and 49, your weight and height are satisfactory and you can say "No" to the 3

questions on the coupon, we guarantee to accept you without one. Of course you must answer the questions truthfully and

tell us all relevant facts - facts which may affect our assessment or acceptance of your proposal. If you're not sure whether something is relevant, you should disclose it, otherwise your benefits may be affected.

Then post your application to our Linkplan Administrator at Lloyd's Life, FREEPOST London EC2B 2BH. You don't even need a stamp.

APPLY BEFORE 8 AUGUST

We'll then prepare you a FREE Personal Illustration showing how much your plan could bring you, based on the amount you wish to pay and your present age.

You'll also receive an offer of insurance. To start your plan, all you do is sign and return the certificate together with your monthly Direct Debiting Mandate. We promise there will be nothing complicated to fill in. So apply today! Send the coupon - you'll be under no obligation at all. We don't even ask for your signature on the coupon.

And, if you return the coupon by the date shown, you'll be eligible for your first month's cover for only £1. All in all, Linkplan is just right for you.

What would you do with your cash? Home improvements? A new car? A boat or the holiday of a lifetime? Or just added comfort for your retirement? The choice is yours.

And remember, after 10 years or when you die, your pay-out is totally tax free!

GO FOR GROWTH

The Lloyd's Life Multiple Growth Fund is worth over £21,000,000. The fund buys stocks and shares around the world - some high performers, some rock-steady government securities, and also invests in property too.

So your money is put to work hard, always aiming to achieve a better return than you would normally expect from bank deposit accounts or building society accounts.

Over the past 10 years, in fact, the average annual growth has been no less than 12.2% each year. We've shown, in the table, how much you'd be worth at this 12.2% growth rate. And, to be

PERSONAL ILLUSTRATION REQUEST

NO OBLIGATION - NO SIGNATURE - SEND NO MONEY.

YES I'm interested in Linkplan. I've ticked my chosen contribution level and answered the questions. Please send me, without obligation, my information pack and my Personal Illustration that shows me how much I could be worth. I understand that no salesman will call on me, and that I am under no obligation. I am returning this coupon before the date shown above. If I accept your offer of insurance, I understand that I will only pay £1 for my first month's premium, no matter what level I choose.

I wish to contribute each month: £10 £15 £20 £25 £30

Name (Mr/Miss/Mrs/Ms) BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

First Name(s)

Address

Town

County Postcode

Male ☐ Female ☐ Date of Birth: DAY MONTH YEAR

Height ft. ins. Weight st. lbs.

Occupation

Broker's name (if any)

Send by 8 August 1984, to qualify for your first month's Linkplan cover for just £1.

Please tick 'Yes' or 'No' to these questions.

A. Has either of your parents died under the age of 60, other than by accidental death? YES ☐ NO ☐

B. Do you intend to fly other than as a fare-paying passenger? Or do you engage in any hazardous sports or occupation? YES ☐ NO ☐

C. Have you had any medical or surgical attention at any time including treatment for mental or nervous disorders, other than for minor ailments? YES ☐ NO ☐

IF ALL 'NO' BOXES TICKED, Your acceptance is guaranteed without a medical, provided you are under 50, and your height and weight are satisfactory.

IF ONE OR MORE 'YES' BOXES TICKED, No need to worry. Please tell us, on a separate sheet, as much detail as you can. In many cases, that will be sufficient, although we reserve the right to decline your application.

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Lloyd's life LINK PLAN

Russian drive to crush all resistance brings successes in Afghan war

From Michael Hamlyn
Delhi

A change in Soviet tactics and a renewed determination to put down the resistance seems to be paying dividends for the Russians in the war for control of Afghanistan which has been going on for four and a half years.

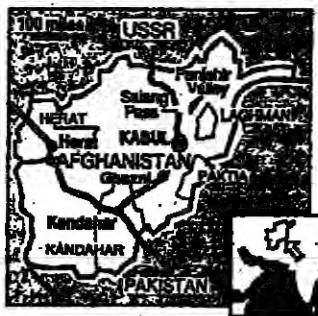
Reports from the country indicate that when Mr Babrak Karmal, the Afghan leader, addressing the thirteen plenary of his party in March, called for intensification of the war and complete annihilation of the counter-revolutionaries, he was not bluffing. The new tactics have paid evident dividends in the Panjshir valley, but reports of the summer campaign in Pakia, Laghman, Herat and Kandahar provinces and in the valleys close to Kabul, show similar intensification of effort.

Diplomats reporting in Delhi yesterday said that a big offensive appears to have started in the Logar valley south of Kabul in the past week, with Soviet and Afghan troops from Ghazni marching north to link up with a column coming south from the capital.

A big increase in helicopter activity has been observed at Kabul airport in the past few days, with gunships heading in the direction of the Logar.

A similar event appears to be taking place in the Shomali valley, to the north of Kabul. A big convoy of tanks and artillery passed through the capital on its way to the north on July 17, and since then the sound of artillery bombardment of the Shomali has been a constant factor at night.

Diplomats reported yesterday also that Soviet and government activity in Pakia and Pakika provinces has "intensified Mujahidin supply lines there".



criminate bombing of civilian targets, and even use of high-level bombers based in Russia are the new factor in Soviet tactics.

In Kandahar, for example, eye-witnesses say that 50 per cent of the buildings are either destroyed or severely damaged, and the city is barely functioning. Diplomats say that fighting is virtually an everyday occurrence and it is now invariably accompanied by heavy bombardment of suburbs and surrounding villages. According to one report, 10,000 Soviet and government troops took part in an operation there in early June.

But the success of Soviet tactics is best seen in the Panjshir valley, though one diplomatic source yesterday said: "It was not quite a Soviet victory," and another added "they failed to inflict total military defeat on the forces of Ahmed Shah Massoud."

Soviet troops have maintained control of the valley and established a line of fortified positions in it, something they have not done before. This has meant that the Mujahidin guerrillas have not been able to cut the road into Kabul from the Soviet border as often or for as long as they would have wished. As a result, the capital is now fully supplied with fuel and food, which it had not been for some months.

Of Ahmed Shah Massoud,

the "Lion of the Panjshir", who last year was able to negotiate his own peace treaty with the Russians, very little has been heard recently. Though he is reported by some journalists to have been supplied with 40 radio sets by American sources, no one at present seems to know his whereabouts.

It is suggested that he and his men are short of food and that he may be forced to cut down his activities greatly now that the granary of the Panjshir is not available to him. According to one account available here, 100 guerrillas need about three tonnes of food a month to survive. Supplying Massoud's 2,000 fighters around the valley presents a formidable logistic problem which Mujahidin organisations may not cope with. In the end, perhaps, it will be food, and not arms, which settles his fate.

Reports of widespread famine in the country are heavily discounted by diplomats here, however.

The increased Russian activity has not allowed the Government to declare a total victory over the rebels, however. "The Russians have got the tiger by the tail and they can't let go," said one Western observer. "But the tiger isn't going anywhere either."

MOSCOW: Relations between the Soviet Union and Pakistan were again at a low ebb yesterday after the postponement - announced in Islamabad but not here - of a visit by Mr Niaz Ahmed Naik, the Pakistani Foreign Minister (AFP reports).

Diplomatic sources said the visit was apparently to have centred on the Afghan issue. The Kremlin has accused Pakistan of siding with Afghan rebels against the Soviet-backed Afghan authorities.

Israeli right jubilant after election upset



Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister (above) gets a celebration kiss from Mr Haim Druckman, leader of a small religious party after the unexpectedly good showing for Mr Shamir's Likud party in the country's general election.

Also celebrating was Rabbi Meir Kahane (right), the right-wing extremist leader whose party gained one seat. The election has increased the number of parties with seats on the floor of the 120-member Knesset from 10 to 15.

With about 95 per cent of

votes counted by early last night a final picture was beginning to emerge in which both the opposition Labour Party with 45 seats and the right-wing Likud with 41 were faced with an uphill struggle to try to stitch together a workable coalition.

Full official results will not be available until Thursday after the votes have been counted of thousands of serving Israeli soldiers - including those based in occupied southern Lebanon where there was a 90 per cent turn-out.

Leading article, page 13

Party	%	Number of seats
Likud	37.1	45
Labour Alignment	36.8	47
Religious Religious Party	3.7	4
Agudat Israel	3.4	4
Netei	2.5	3
Yisrael	2.3	3
Yem	1.8	2
Agudat Israel	1.6	2
Morasha	1.4	2
Others	5.2	6

Party	%	Number of seats
Labour Alignment	32.4	43
Religious Religious Party	3.7	4
Yisrael	3.4	4
Netei	3.4	4
Yem	2.3	3
Agudat Israel	1.6	2
Morasha	1.4	2
Others	1	1

Arab world affects indifference

From Robert Fisk
Beirut

Despite the potential impact of the Israeli election on the future of the occupied West Bank, the Arab world reacted to the first poll results, as usual, with expressions of indifference and claims that the outcome would have no effect on Israel's policies in the region.

Government-controlled newspapers in Syria and Egypt both suggested Israel would continue to expand its territory at the expense of the Arabs. "The real winner will be Israeli extremism," announced the Cairo daily *Al Gounhouria*.

The only advice the Israeli received came from Mr Esmat Abdul Meguid, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, who said the

new Government "should take urgent steps to withdraw from Lebanese and Arab lands and negotiate to find a just settlement to the Palestinian problem."

In Damascus, where the population has never been permitted to enjoy the mysteries of a genuinely multi-party election, the newspaper *Al Baath* - representing Syria's only legal political party - insisted that "no change will make any difference: the Labour Party is likely to mobilize more diplomatic support for Israel's next expansionist wars."

The Damascus daily *Tishrin* regarded both Likud and Labour as "different faces of the same coin - the policies are the same, though they may have different methods of putting them into practice."

In Saudi Arabia, the daily *Al Riyadh* complained that Israeli politicians had courted the Arab vote in the election to give a "democratic tinge" to the poll.

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In Cairo, *Al Gounhouria* took the view that the Middle East peace process had suffered a setback because neither leading party in Israel was capable of forming a strong government.

Al Ahrar, which speaks with the voice of President Mubarak, thought that the next Israeli administration would concentrate on solving the country's economic problems.

In Saudi Arabia, the daily *Al Riyadh* complained that Israeli politicians had courted the Arab vote in the election to give a "democratic tinge" to the poll.

Warsaw joy as thieves walk free

From Roger Boyes
Warsaw

There were touching scenes of reunion in the battered Warsaw suburb of Praga yesterday as pickpockets, cat burglars and safe-crackers celebrated their release from prison under an amnesty announced at the weekend.

A group outside the Bazar, the open-air market which functions as the focus of underworld Warsaw, shouted and jostled each other, committing their first offence since leaving prison by buying and drinking alcohol before one o'clock.

Some 35,000 common criminals, about 40 per cent of the Polish prison population, have been made beneficiaries of the amnesty, along with the 652 political prisoners.

The criminals have been coming out by the score, and by the end of the week will be walking free in their hundreds. The "policals" are coming out in a trickle, carefully controlled, carefully observed.

The solidarity 11 - or 10 since Mr Andrzej Gwiazda is being freed separately - are expected to be whisked out of Rakowicka prison in cars to prevent them from giving a pavement news conference.

According to the official PAP news agency yesterday, about 1,800 offenders, 52 of them political, have now benefited from the amnesty.

The regular police are wary of the exodus of criminals. The crime rate is already high. "We fully share public anxiety aroused by the release of those convicted for theft and burglary, and appropriate measures for keeping them under observation have been taken," declared Colonel Zbigniew Rudy, head of the Criminal Investigation Department.

Speculation in Western diplomatic circles yesterday centred on which Western minister would be the first to break the informal ban on high-level visits to Warsaw imposed as part of the sanctions process. The Finnish and Austrian foreign ministers are expected in the next six months.

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Weinberger defies critics of forces

Washington - Mr Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, has branded "potentially dangerous" a congressional subcommittee report which criticises the readiness of US armed forces and says they could not fight a prolonged war.

The report, by staff of the Democrat-dominated House of Representatives appropriations Sub Committee on defence, said US forces in 1982-1983 were not ready to fight the Soviet Union and readiness had in fact been deteriorating in recent years.

Mr Weinberger said on Monday "This is just simply not the case."

He warned against "incorrect misinterpretations" and "attempting to twist" the facts of the true situation, and he noted that the report was appearing in an election year, at a critical time when Congress was considering the Pentagon's 1985 defence budget request for about \$291bn (£220bn).

Mr Weinberger spoke of the "serious and potentially dangerous nature of the misstatements and the errors" in the report.

Mrs Gandhi fends off Punjab anger

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi

for vociferous attack for what it failed to say. "We expected to find a complete picture here," complained Mr Satya Chakraborty, of the Communist Party (Marxist). "Instead, we find a distorted picture."

Mr Chakraborty's objections to the White Paper included the failure to take the people into its confidence on the role of foreign powers in Punjab, and its silence on the Congress Party's support of the extremist leader, Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, during the period of Akali rule in Punjab.

These points were echoed by many other Opposition speakers in both houses. Several speakers also attacked the White Paper's silence on the content of the secret meetings between the Government and leaders of the Sikh agitation. Mrs Gandhi in her intervention insisted that those who tried to link her party to Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale were barking up the wrong tree. She particularly refuted an allegation that she had addressed a meeting at which the Sant was present. The debate will continue today.

In both the Rajya Sabha and the lower house, the Lok Sabha, the government's White Paper on the Punjab agitation came in

US safety men probe train crash

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington

US government investigators yesterday began piecing together the details of the fourth serious accident this month involving Amtrak, the national passenger train system. Two Amtrak passenger trains collided head-on in Queen's New York City, on Monday, killing one person and injuring 125.

It happened on a viaduct 80ft above a busy street. Both engines and four carriages on each train were derailed. There is a 40 mph speed limit on that stretch of track, but both trains were believed to be travelling much slower at the time.

The National Transportation Safety Board will report on the cause. Thirteen days ago an Amtrak train hit a tanker lorry on a crossing in McBee in South Carolina, killing the train's driver and the lorry driver.

On July 7 five people were killed and 137 injured when nine carriages of a train were derailed in Vermont. Three days earlier two people who had been sitting in a parked lorry died when the vehicle was hit by an Amtrak train in Elgin.

The latest accident appears to be connected with track maintenance work, which resulted in the temporary closure of one of the tracks.

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Fabius gives exotic look to Cabinet

A touch of the exotic has been added to the otherwise remarkably familiar row of faces in M Laurent Fabius's new Government with the introduction of a former world skating champion, a woman defence minister, a leading space expert and a world-renowned volcanologist by the name of Haroun Tazieff.

M Tazieff, who owes his name to his Polish origins, has been appointed, at the age of 70, to the new post of junior Minister for prevention of Natural and Technological Disasters. He has already been dubbed "Mr Catastrophe" for his work as government commissioner for the study and prevention of natural disasters over the past three years.

As a minister, he will be endowed with much greater powers to coordinate relief and safety programmes to combat natural disasters, such as the freak hailstorm, with stones as big as table-tennis balls, which severely damaged houses and vineyards in Burgundy earlier this month.

The world of sport has expressed great satisfaction with the appointment of M Alain Calmat, aged 43, as Minister of Youth and Sports. M Calmat was four times French figure skating champion, before becoming world champion in 1965, when he retired to

disaster. He is now chief surgeon in a hospital outside Paris.

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Debris rains on village as 9 die in oil blast

Romeoville, Illinois (Reuters)

Nine people died, 20 were injured and seven are missing after an oil refinery explosion at this village southwest of Chicago. It shot flames 500ft into the sky and blew pieces of metal up to a mile and a half away. Villagers thought it was a nuclear explosion.

Union Oil said the blast was apparently caused by a mechanical failure in a processing tower.

Boxer killed in gun battle

Buenos Aires (Reuters)

Cesar Romero, the World Boxing Council's sixth ranked light heavyweight until recently, was killed during a 40-minute shootout with police in a Buenos Aires suburb after two robberies.

His brother and two other gang members were also shot dead. Romero, aged 29, a former convict known in boxing circles as The Beast, was hit by eight bullets.

Fee for Everest rises steeply

Katmandu (AP) - Nepal has raised its fee for Himalayan climbing expeditions under new regulations in force since Monday.

Permission to climb Everest goes up from 15,000 to 50,000 rupees (£714-£2380) and for other peaks above 8,000 metres from 14,000 to 40,000 rupees. It might help the overcrowding problem on the eight most popular peaks, an official offered in explanation.

Temples open

Peking (AFP) - A total of 125 temples and monasteries will be reopened to the public in Tibet within the next six years after renovation. "To implement the Chinese Communist Party's policy on religious freedom," the New China news agency reported. Last year 75 monasteries and temples were reopened.

Coins surface

Cairo (AP) - Divers have recovered 127 French silver coins and 55 letters from an old printing press on board Napoleon's fleet, sunk in the Battle of the Nile in 1798. Attempts are being made to raise some of the ships.

Priest protest

Washington (Reuters) - The State Department has expressed strong concern to Romania about the death last March of a Roman Catholic priest, Father Geza Falfi of the Odorheiu Secuiesc parish. One report said he was beaten to death but the official version is he died of cancer.

Legal porn

The Hague (Reuters) - The Dutch Government is planning to legalize pornography for adults. A ban on its distribution to those over 16 will be lifted. The Justice Minister, Mr Frederik Kortbeek, said laws already existed to punish any abuses associated with pornography.

Prado slasher

Madrid (Reuters) - A vandal slashed a 22in by 29in portion out of the sixteenth century painter Leandro Sasso's "Embarkation of the Doge" in the Prado museum. Folded in eight places, the section was found near the cafeteria.

Children crushed

Peking (AP) - Twenty-one children and a teacher were crushed to death when a school collapsed during heavy rain in Huo county, Shanxi province earlier this month, the daily newspaper *Shanxi Ribao* reported. It blamed faulty construction for the disaster and said several local buildings were in similar peril.

Iranian hijack suspects arrested in Spain

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Republicans harp on Central America as big campaign issue

From Christopher Thomas Washington

Mr George Bush, the US Vice-President, has said that the Republicans will press Central America as a "prime issue" in the forthcoming elections. He accused Mr Walter Mondale and the Democrats of not understanding the importance or nature of the Marxist threat to the region.

Mr Bush, interviewed in the White House by *The Washington Post*, abruptly dispelled recent impressions that the Reagan Administration might attempt to give less emphasis to Central America as an election issue.

Democrats are clearly delighted: it will provide the perfect platform from which to press their claim that Mr Reagan is a warmonger.

The Administration's military operations in Central America are at a low level compared with recent activities, especially in Honduras, although the Pentagon has announced that a small team of Army Green Beret troops began a series of counter-insurgency exercises in Honduras on Sunday. It continues an almost unbroken pattern of US military manoeuvres in that country over the past 18 months.

The low-key military presence is interpreted by several commentators as the result of election considerations, given

Mr Bush: Democrats do not understand threat

that the Democrats have accused Mr Reagan of dragging the US towards "another Vietnam".

Mr Bush acknowledged that Mr Mondale's position has public support. But he said that the Reagan Administration had a real opportunity if it could "get the message across" about the nature of the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua. "The Democrats have been working on an erroneous premise about what has been going on in Central America," he added.

Referring to a Marxist threat in Central America, Mr Bush continued: "I do not believe from Mondale's rhetoric that he understands this. I do not believe they (the Democrats) understand that the Sandinistas are what they say they are -

they are Marxists, they have no intention of going the democratic route."

● **MANAGUA:** A small but vociferous crowd chanting anti-government slogans gathered at Managua airport on Monday evening to welcome home the man they believe has the best chance of ousting the Sandinista front at the elections later this year (Alan Tomlinson writes).

After three years in exile in the US where he defected while ambassador, Señor Arturo Cruz returned as presidential candidate for the Democratic Coordinating Committee, a small but lively coalition of seven centre and right-wing groups.

The mainly young crowd of about 100 supporters chanted "communism no, democracy yes" and waved placards proclaiming "With Arturo as president, there'll be toothpaste again". Toothpaste has come to symbolize the wide-ranging list of commodities in short supply.

The Opposition clearly sees the economy as the Government's weakest spot, and from that point of view, the choice of Señor Cruz, who showed considerable financial skill while president of the central bank, could turn out to be a shrewd one. However, there are those who believe his reputation may carry more weight among the international banking community than with Nicaraguan voters.



Honouring Duke: All seven of John Wayne's children with all 23 of his grandchildren, together for the first time to celebrate the unveiling of a statue of the film star in Beverly Hills, California.

Bombs go off near temple before Tamils begin fast

Colombo (Reuters) - Three bombs exploded yesterday near a Hindu temple in Sri Lanka's northern district of Jaffna shortly before minority Tamil leaders were to begin a fast to mark last year's ethnic violence.

Front (TULF), began the 10-hour fast as planned.

Witnesses said about 350 people were taking part in the protest against the killing of about 400 Sri Lankans.

The TULF, campaigning for a separate state for Tamils in the northern and eastern provinces, launched a week of mourning on Monday for the victims.

Turkey again offers olive branch to Greece

From Rasit Gurdilek Ankara

After celebrations to mark the tenth anniversary of Turkey's armed intervention in Cyprus, Mr Turgut Ozal, the Turkish prime minister, renewed his peace offensive towards Athens yesterday. Rasit Gurdilek writes. He offered electricity and fresh water

supplies to the Greek islands off the Turkish coast.

Mr Ozal repeated his offer to "freeze" political disputes and concentrate first on normalizing economic and commercial relations. He cited again his government's lifting of visa obligations for visiting Greeks. Such goodwill gestures had still not been reciprocated

Manila bar on military cooperation in Asean

From Keith Dalton Manila

The Philippine Government yesterday rejected a proposal by Singapore that greater military cooperation is needed among non-communist countries in South East Asia to meet any threat to the region's security.

The new Foreign Minister, Mr Arturo Tolentino, said this was contrary to the original aims of the Association of South-East Asian Nations.

Asean should concentrate on political, economic and social matters instead of turning itself into a military alliance, Mr Tolentino said at his first news conference since taking over from his veteran predecessor, Mr Carlos Romulo.

Singapore's Defence Minister, Dr Yeo Ning Hong, said last week that expanded military cooperation among the six Asean states was necessary because the Cambodian conflict and the Soviet presence in Vietnam had a destabilizing effect on the region.

While the Philippines supported the policy of deterring aggression, no chance was needed in Asean's basic policy, Mr Tolentino said.

The other Asean states are Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei and Indonesia.

Mr Tolentino also indicated that Malaysia insisted, the Philippines might be prepared to discuss a formal declaration renouncing any claim to the east Malaysian state of Sabah.

Perugia peace meeting

Delegates from East set a puzzle

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The nuclear disarmers who have just finished a somewhat chaotic meeting in Perugia left behind them a new problem, in the shape of the significance to be attached to the official delegations from the Soviet Union and East Europe.

Days after the final torchlight procession which closed the meeting, the debate over this continues. There were 59 empty seats at the meeting, for the unofficial advocates of disarmament in the East who failed to get permission to attend.

But that was neither new nor surprising. There were, in fact, a few unofficial delegates from the East who managed to make their way there: four unofficial Hungarians were noted and a certain amount of documentation was circulated which included the views of such groups as the Czechoslovak Charter 77, which is not strictly a disarmament movement.

There were also flags and banners belonging to Solidarity and to several East German peace movements. At the opening session there were shouts of "free Sakharov".

All this could be expected. The fresh question was what importance could be attached to the official delegations rather than to the absence of unofficial delegates from the East. Some of the Western representatives and much of the press here saw little or no significance in their presence.

The official Soviet delegates defended the intervention in Afghanistan, which they could hardly have expected to endorse them to the international pacifist movement.

They claimed that they supported the freedom of individual countries to choose their own defensive alliances and armaments.

Mr Grigory Lokshin, leader of this first Soviet official

delegation to attend a pacifist conference on nuclear disarmament, stated baldly that in the Soviet Union there was "no repression against activities for peace". The Sakharov case was "based on ignorance and lies".

Nevertheless, the clash between these functionaries from the East and the Western pacifists, who include civil disobedience in their range of activities, was seen by some to be potentially fruitful. The Italian Communist position, for instance, was that it was here that the real value of the conference lay.

Western pacifist movements now had, for the first time, a means of addressing themselves to representatives of the Soviet authorities, even if they were unable to share the experience in Perugia with like-minded disarmers from the East. And the Soviet delegates were brought face-to-face not only with Western pacifists, but with exiles from their own part of the world.

● **UNITY PLEA:** Charter 77 sent a letter to delegates at the conference outlining its aim for a Europe free of Soviet and US troops (John Witherow writes). The letter, signed by three Charter 77 spokesmen and 13 other dissidents, including the former Foreign Minister, Mr Jiri Hajek, and the playwright, Vaclav Havel, said "the only way out of the blind alley into which the policy of military might has driven Europe... is to unite all those opposed to nuclear madness in a mighty democratic coalition expressing the authentic wishes of the inhabitants of Europe."

"Today's woeful situation would not be possible were the people of Europe not divided internally, both ideologically and politically. This internal division is the basis for the 'external' division of Europe."

Press war breaks out in S Africa

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

In the best, or worst, traditions of Fleet Street, a cut-throat war between South Africa's two main English-language newspaper groups has intensified here with the announcement that *The Star*, Johannesburg's sole evening newspaper, is to launch a Sunday edition from September 30.

The Star is owned by the Argus Printing and Publishing Company, which has a 39 per cent shareholding in the other big English-language press group, South African Associated Newspapers (SAAN). A revamped version of the *Sunday Express*, a SAAN newspaper which serves much the same readership area as *The Star*, is due to start on August 5.

Cape Town hecklers put to flight

Violence erupted at a meeting near Cape Town on Monday night of the Labour Party, the main Coloured (mixed race) political party contesting elections next month in the new three-race Parliament (Michael Hornsby writes from Johannesburg).

Several hundred people, mainly Coloured youths, opposed to participation in the elections, disrupted the meeting. Fighting broke out between the hecklers and those attending the meeting.

A special police "Reaction Unit" then arrived - the Labour Party having summoned it - and charged into the hall, laying about it indiscriminately with sjamboks.

Once the anti-election groups had been cleared from the hall, in the Bishop Lavis Coloured Township, just outside Cape Town, the meeting resumed.

Olympics eagle drops out

Los Angeles (AP) - A rare bald eagle called Bomber, that wildlife officials had hesitated to lend to Olympic organizers, died while being trained to soar over the Games opening ceremonies, the Wildlife Service here said.

The service at first refused to issue a permit for the use of an eagle, the national symbol. Bomber was lent by its research centre in Patuxent, Maryland, after an official of the Olympic Organization Committee said the request "had the support of

the White House". Dr James Carpenter, chief of propagation at the centre, said:

"If it worked... it would be good for the Olympics and good for publicizing the plight of the bald eagle." Dr Carpenter told *The Los Angeles Times* on Monday. The eagle, one of only about 5,000 in the United States outside Alaska, died about a week ago.

A spokesman for the Olympic Committee said he had heard that a golden eagle was now being trained

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From the Annual Report and Accounts of the British Gas Corporation 1983/4, available from H.M.S.O., price £2.00. Further information from the Public Relations Department, British Gas Corporation, Rivermill House, 152 Grosvenor Road, London SW1V 3JL.

Britain's got a wonderfuel future

Gas

TWENTY MILLION PEOPLE IN THE NORTH HAVE TWO QUESTIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE CAA'S REVIEW OF AIRLINE COMPETITION POLICY

(1) WHAT'S IN IT FOR THE NORTH?

Answer: Precious little and certainly not the benefits of competition.

(2) CAN THE GOVERNMENT AFFORD TO CONTINUE TO IGNORE THE FACT THAT 40% OF THE UK'S INTERNATIONAL AIR PASSENGERS ORIGINATE OUTSIDE THE SOUTH EAST?

Answer: No, and now is the time to demonstrate the same commitment to the UK's third airport, Manchester International, as to Gatwick.

The CAA's report on Airline Competition Policy is another example of discrimination against consumers in the North.

It is a report that ignores the needs of passengers, places great emphasis on the development of Gatwick which will be at the

expense of Manchester International Airport, and does nothing for the economic regeneration of the Region.

A strange anomaly, when the Government designated Manchester a Category 'A' Gateway International Airport in 1978.

MANCHESTER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

SPECTRUM

Face values of the hanging judges

Whisper it not along the walls of
the National Portrait Gallery

but three trade unionists,
captured in oils, are to join the
canvases of the establishment.

Philip Mould looks behind this
strange break with tradition

Today the National Portrait Gallery will announce its intention to commission a portrait of three former trade union leaders - Sidney Weighell of the National Union of Railwaymen, Tom Jackson of the Union of Post Office Workers and Lord Gormley of the National Union of Mineworkers.

The gallery has bought sketches of trade unionists in the past, but this will be its first commissioned portrait, and the first oil painting. As Robin Gibson, the gallery's "twentieth century" keeper, said: "The balance has now been righted".

This decision, like the inclusion of all works at the National Portrait Gallery, was taken by the board of trustees, made up of four professors, a duke and a cluster of public figures. The portrait of the three trade unionists marks the most significant shift so far from their propensity to acquire portraits of the old establishment and others who fit a traditional view of prominence.

As Britain's official adjudicators of history, the trustees were given a brief in 1856 to represent the great and influential in a gallery of faces. Successive Prime Ministers have taken a personal interest in selecting 16 "history makers".

Portraits cover the walls like prisoners on trial

to make these decisions. With a formidable annual budget, currently at £310,000 the board meets four afternoons a year to discuss candidates and their merits. If three of them disagree with a proposal, it is turned down. The contentious sides of their activity is not which artists to choose - that is the director's job - but who should be represented. Would, for instance, Sebastian Coe limit the space for someone more worthy? "He is a good athlete, a great athlete", one of the trustees told me, "but we turned

him down because his personality is not yet great enough". In the nineteenth century eminent figures were easier to pinpoint than they are now. The decline of religion has meant that the public's conception of prominence is no longer based on obvious values and the board's job is becoming more complex. With living candidates, the problem is to decide not so much what a sitter has achieved, but what he or she represents. On paper, Lady Diana Cooper may present a less impressive case than Tom Stoppard; but could it be argued that she symbolizes an epoch? Sir Hugh Casson, who is championing her cause certainly thinks so.

Lord Kenyon, the neatly-built 64-year-old chairman, heads the table in an enormous boardroom overlooking Trafalgar Square. Portraits for consideration cover the walls like prisoners on trial, and the meeting proceeds as a succession of rapid court cases, each considered and decided upon. Votes are cast around the table - first clockwise and then anti-clockwise - so that no trustee is unduly affected by the choice of another. The occasional flash of steel can be glimpsed as the academics - some, according to one observer, nervous at having their views challenged - spar over subjects of common interest. On other occasions the volume of business and intensity of thought are such that to quote one member, "someone points out something absurd, the meeting becomes flip and we all start giggling".

The trustees are divided into two main schools: those who side with an orthodox view of fame and want the worthies of their own area of interest correctly represented; and those who could fairly be described as radicals, extending their task to squalling the establishment's traditionally unflinching view of prominence. These radical spirits have been most active since the early 1970s, when the stipulation that a candidate



Trustees and senior staff of the National Portrait Gallery: left to right, back row Sir Haw Wheldon, Sir Hugh Casson, Lord Rockley, Henry Keswick, The Duke of Grafton, Professor J. M. Roberts, The Marquess of Anglesey, Professor Brian Morris. Left to right, seated: John Ehrman, Malcolm Rogers (Deputy Director NPG), Lord Kenyon (Chairman of Trustees), John Hayes (Director NPG), Mrs Susan Crestland and Professor Margaret Gowing; and, below, trustees not present at last week's meeting

must have been dead for 10 years (except for the sovereign or his consort) was relaxed. Twenty-seven such portraits have since been commissioned, among them Lord Denning, Tom Stoppard, Elton John, Paul McCartney, Sir Alec Guinness and now the three trade union leaders.

Brian Morris, who is Professor of English at St David's University College, Lampeter, bears some of the responsibility for the "radical commissions". I met him at the Athenaeum Club in London, his nationalist pride vivid in the red dragons on his cravat tie.

We drank beer and in between some useful insights into the state of Welsh rugby, he delivered his views with the controlled fervour of a man of the valleys. "What is the use of someone like Venetia Digby to the working man?" he asked

me, referring to the gallery's highly expensive recent acquisition of a Van Dyck. "Paul McCartney, if you honestly weigh up the part he has played, has been more influential over the past 15 years than any Prime Minister."

If I wanted an outspoken trustee, Morris was the obvious choice. But his views are sometimes unofficially strengthened by another trustee affectionately described by one of her fellow members as "not quite a surgical knife, but something on those lines". Margaret Gowing, Professor of History of Science at Oxford, worked with Morris on achieving the trade union commission and it is her uncompromising logic together with Morris's spirit that spearheads the board's new approach. Neither claims to be political, although Morris did say that a natural

ally would not be found in their fellow trustee the Duke of Grafton. Their main aim is to correct the emphasis which, they point out, partly ignores science and industry and leans towards those of a privileged background.

In an attempt to work out who is deserving, Margaret Gowing (whose talents have also been applied to the monumental task of storing and retrieving government papers) has brought a discipline to the process of selection. With cerebral prowess she has divided into more than a hundred categories all those who should be considered - including mountaineers and those of the more rarified medical specialties, such as epidemiologists. She feels that candidates should be weighed up without emotion, and value judgments are out. If, for example, Mr Arthur Scargill continues as a prominent trade union leader, he should end up with Gormley and the rest. Inevitably her interests swing towards the sciences and she would like to see what she describes as this "sad gap" filled by people like Dorothy Hodgkin, the prize-winning chemist.

But there is a reason for this "sad gap". The gallery's job is also to entertain, which is bound to mean choosing portraits that inspire. Professors of science and linchpins of industry do not always make exciting portraits; there are therefore those on the board whose inclination is to prevent any tendency towards sterility.

One of these, in contrast to the two fiery campaigners, is Sir Hugh Casson, President of the Royal Academy. Dressed in Lincoln green corduroy suit and red tie, Casson glides like a dragonfly between his ideas,



Sir Oliver Miller Viscount Whitelaw Sir Lawrence Gowing Owen Chadwick

dabbling them into shape with wry metaphors: "The English", he said, "are a nation of herbivores. We are inclined to think the truth lies in the arts and not in the sciences: don't you agree?" I did.

"I would not say that I am interested in personalities, because that sounds too much like Terry Wogan". There was then a gap of about five seconds as he fingered for a definition.

"But I suppose what I'm interested in are 'cultivated

They serve as a great inspiration to others

enablers', like Lord Acton. Or, there again, someone like Charlotte Bonham Carter who arrives like a mad fairy at four parties simultaneously".

Quite happy to sit back and listen when the academic specialists start talking, Sir Hugh Casson and, to some extent, Sir Haw Wheldon, are the cultivated generalists on the board. Immersed in the arts and in touch with the more colourful movers in society, the modern Oscar Wildes and Bernard Shaws are safe in their hands.

Sir Lawrence Gowing, Professor of the Slade School of Art

and the longest standing trustee (only distantly related to Margaret Gowing), is undoubtedly the one who talks the most at meetings. He is also an eminent artist; his primary role is to judge the quality of the work of art on offer, a function that Sir Oliver Miller, Surveyor of the Queen's Pictures, performs for earlier works. It was probably Sir Lawrence who steered the trustees away from accepting Felix Topolski's portrait of Tony Benn two years ago because, in the board's published view, it was not a good painting.

Gowing has a high regard for the National Portrait Gallery and feels it has vigour and masculinity. The gallery has two portraits of him so the regard is probably mutual. It is difficult not to feel that his personality reflects the character of the board, which in a contented way ("we are unusually happy", director Dr John Hayes said) is a highly professional.

When one member asked in innocence whether a candidate was listed in the Dictionary of National Biography, he met a thoughtful silence from his fellow trustees which, in the words of Brian Morris, is known to those who had to admit before the class that they

had not done their Latin homework.

The board's conscientiousness is understandable, if one shares Lord Palmerston's view of the gallery's importance: "There cannot, I feel convinced, be a greater incentive to mental exertion, to noble actions, to good conduct on the part of the living... than for them to see before them the features of those who have done things which are worthy of admiration".

Unlike a trustee of the National Gallery, an NPG trustee, once selected, is normally there for good, having only to go through a nominal reelection every seven years. They all therefore grow old together, getting to know one another's views intimately.

Sooner or later, I was told by one of them, they will have to consider a great criminal like Ronald Biggs. For so bold a proposition, it is likely they can predict one another's reactions: Brian Morris may be there fanning the flames, Hugh Casson commenting wryly: Lawrence Gowing expounding, some of the others giggling; and Margaret Gowing silently wondering why train robbers are nowhere to be found on her list.

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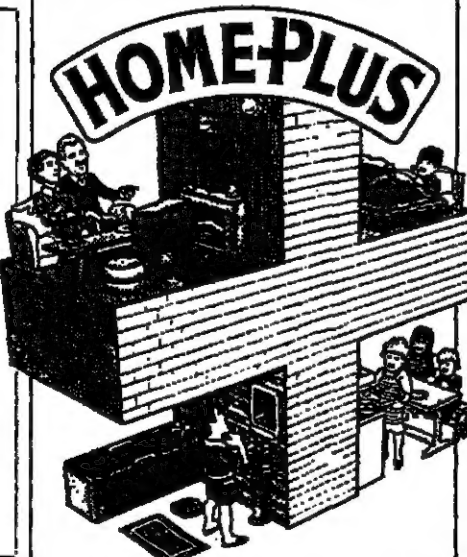
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Gadzooks! The fish has exploded

moreover... Miles Kington

"The buffet, which is situated towards the centre of the train, is still open for the sale of refreshments, light snacks..." Rutland and Edwina made their way across country until they found themselves in A. Jones, Fishmonger, Llanbedr. Rutland asked the man pleasantly for some cod. "We haven't got any," Smith smiled and produced a gun. "All my cod is gone," he quavered. "It was bought by a strange tribe, the like of whom I have never seen before..." At that point the whole shop shook and a tin of pilchards fell out of the fridge. Edwina screamed. "It's only an earthquake," grunted Rutland. "Quick, back to the train."

On the train they found themselves sitting in a carriage occupied entirely by huge black men. Rutland went over to their leader. "We are the West Indian cricket team en route to the fourth Test. We are trying to keep awake for the fifth Test." At that moment there was an unbolting explosion outside the window. Looking out, they saw that an express train had run at 100mph into a tin of sardines, and a British Rail director was demonstrating proudly that the tin had only been dented. Three hours later, Rutland Smith and Catriona (Edwina had gone off duty) were pushing their way through impenetrable undergrowth. A man ran past

wearing only underwear. Wild dogs tried to kill them from time to time.

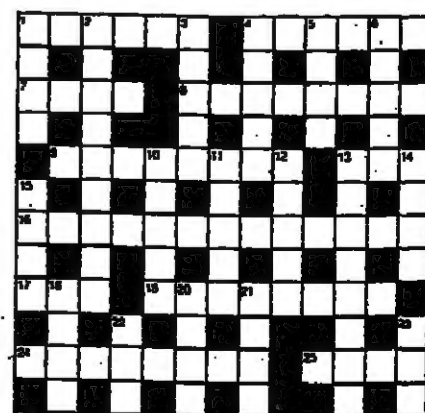
"Where are we?" said Catriona, terrified. "Hampstead Heath," grunted Smith. "I believe there is a strange tribe here, who..." He was interrupted by a white-haired old man waving a stick at him.

"Leave the gypsies alone!" cried Michael Foot. "Their rights as a minority, and I do mean this, as we pledged in our election manifesto, and I will say it again now, we must take a stand..."

"I feel a terrible drowsiness coming over me," murmured Catriona. Rutland took careful aim at the old man and shot. The bullet pinged harmlessly off a duffle button. Foot fell, crying: "Take me to the Cenotaph!"

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 402)

- ACROSS
1 Short work jacket (6)
4 Governmental system (6)
7 Ancient Egyptian descendant (4)
8 Provisions (8)
9 Miscellaneous (8)
13 Crowned headgear (3)
16 Weirily contrived (5,8)
17 Old car test (1,1,1)
19 Supplication (8)
24 Rousing (8)
25 Swarming insect (4)
26 Reporter's credit (2,4)
27 Solicitor (6)



- DOWN
1 Torture bed (4)
2 By the way (2,7)
3 Wild liver (5)
4 First look round (5)
5 Sakey substance (4)
6 Muslim teacher (5)
10 Yellow earth pigment (5)
11 Salmon fish (5)
12 Car trip (5)
13 Holding back (9)
14 Large liquid container (4)
15 Counterfeit (4)
18 Egg organ (5)
20 Ingenious (5)
21 Kingly (5)
22 Legionnaire's cap (4)
23 Disturb (4)

SOLUTION TO No 401
ACROSS: 1 Wet rot 5 Duty 8 Rugby 9 Endemic 11 Hard hats 13 Wary 15 Thoroughgoing 17 AWOL 18 Liegeman 21 Essence 22 Toss 23 Omelette 24 Sludgy
DOWN: 2 Egg 3 Ray 4 Twenty guineas 5 Dada 6 Tuxpant 7 Archtrave 10 Cryogenics 12 Hoop 14 Agog 16 Opposum 19 Mised 20 Anon 22 Two

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Teenagers are increasingly ruining their prospects by becoming addicted to playing fruit machines. Valerie Grocock reports



On a losing streak... youngsters in an arcade

Gambling away the future

Compulsive gambling is an addiction which affects thousands of families, but recently there has been an alarming increase in the number of children, even as young as 10, who have fallen prey to the lure of fruit machines.

Although there are no official statistics, Gamblers Anonymous estimates the number of young people seeking help has tripled in the past two years and a junior branch has been started.

Consultant child psychologist at London's Royal Free Hospital Dr. Allick Elithorn has a regular input of family problems where gambling is a major factor.

"Fruit machines give the impression he or she has some control over the situation, but in fact the pay-off is completely controlled by the machine," he says. "The type of gambling varies according to social class, but whereas horse racing tends to be an upper class pursuit, it is the working class kids who gravitate to the machines."

"Arcades are the working man's casino." He claims that many of these young people are emotionally deprived and some have no alternative outlets. "Psychologists nowadays tend to see some people as essentially risk takers and sensation seekers, and gambling appeals to this type of young person. There should be more emphasis in schools on educating young people to be healthy, happy and resistant to addiction of all sorts."

Significantly, most of the teenagers who become addicted to playing the machines are boys. Gamblers Anonymous says few girls are found in the arcades and those that are there tend to be watching the boys.

Some are as young as Donald, who is just 10. He

spends hours in the arcades. He says his parents know he goes down the arcades and do not mind at all. "I don't go on the gambling machines, I just enjoy playing the games... I like it because it keeps you occupied for a while."

Many youths move on to fruit machines and the promise of easy money after first being attracted to computer games and amusement machines.

Simon, Fennell is 17 and works for an electrical contracting firm in Sussex. On his way home he often plays the machines in arcades. It's been his hobby since he was 12 and

"The arcades have ruined my life - I'm just nobody"

played Space Invaders at a seaside resort.

Today's machines are more sophisticated, all high-powered computers and laser discs, and a new game popping up nearly every week. And even though there is no chance of winning cash, the games initially attracted Simon as much as gambling. "You get rid of a lot of frustration," he explains. "You get really involved. He even dreams about it at night."

He is particularly fond of "Dragon's Lair", a cartoon adventure in the traditional mould, complete with knight, sweetheart and evil dragon. "After 10-15 minutes you think you're actually there, in control. The girl's your girlfriend, the dragon's your worst enemy. You think 'that's me - here, and you go charging around.'"

Out of his weekly take-home pay of £25 he reckons to spend at least £5 on the machines.

"My mum says 'How much are you taking out?' I usually say a fiver but take out a tenner. But she knows how much money I've got upstairs. I can't hide it from her."

"My dad thinks it's a waste of money. I say 'Well, it's just like you betting on the dogs.' He says 'That's different'... But it's the same, it's both gambling."

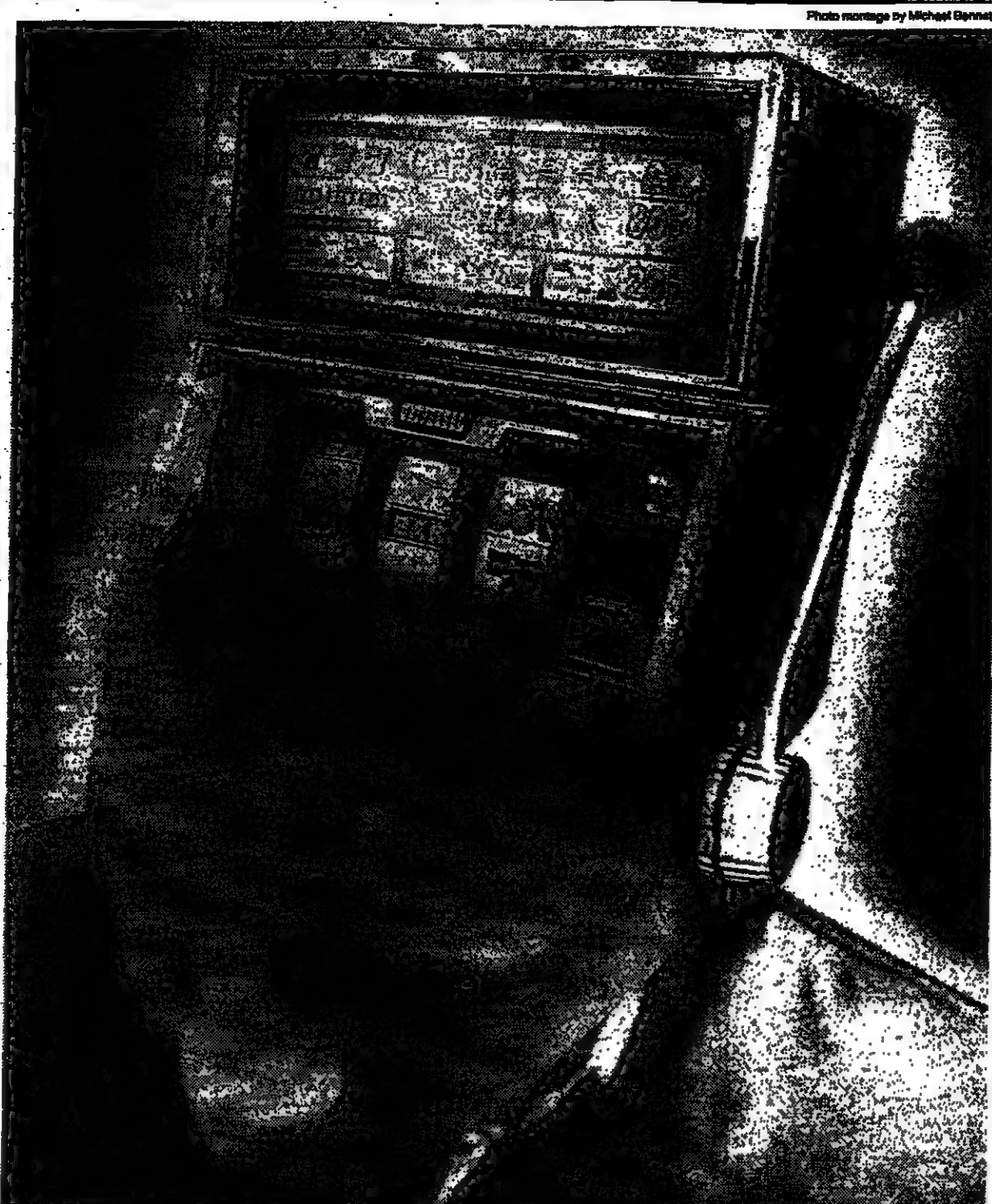
When he was still at school most of his pocket money went on the arcades. As his interest grew, he would ask his parents for money in advance. "That's when they started getting annoyed with me for going down there... My mum's not so bothered as she was at first. She thought I'd get into trouble. You get some weird characters down those places - drunks, winos..."

He is a quiet, serious young man and admits he can be a bit of a loser. "I tend to hit the machines. You feel very angry, because the next minute someone will come along, put 10p in and win. I've never had a big win. £9 is the most."

Ask him if he is addicted and he says no, he can take it or leave it. "Some weeks I'm bored with going down there... but I do feel a need - for the enjoyment of going, seeing people I know. It's just a way of relaxing, a form of leisure. You forget everything."

But the tragedy is that others cannot leave it alone. Terry is 18 and a self-confessed addict. He has been out of work since Christmas. You will find him in the arcades nearly every day, "all day", when he has the money.

"As soon as I get up in the morning it's down the arcades. When I get thrown out, that doesn't even put me off. I go somewhere else to play. Since 9 o'clock this morning



I was caught in my own dream world

Peter (not his real name) is 19 and a compulsive gambler. Now the secretary of Young Gamblers Anonymous, he started playing fruit machines when he was 16.

I was lonely. I didn't have time for friends, or the ability to communicate. Nothing - nobody - mattered to me. I only knew one way, and that was to gamble.

I reached rock bottom. It seemed pointless to get up in the morning and go to work, because I owed so much money. In the last year of my gambling I never won a penny. Looking back, I was imprisoned in my dream world. I was running from myself, escaping from reality...

Crossing the line from "normal" to "uncontrolled" gambling was a gradual process. Compulsive gambling is a symptom of my illness. If I hadn't gone gambling, it could equally have been alcoholism, drugs or a mental breakdown.

My family don't know the full extent of it. I kept it a secret. I was a good liar. Since I began attending GA meetings just over a year ago, I have managed to resist the lure of the fruit machines. Part of GA's recovery programme embraces the maxim "One Day at a Time".

There is no magic cure for compulsive gambling. We can only arrest it... As long as I keep going to the meetings I am safe. I am gaining so much from not gambling, not just financially but personally, mentally.

When my mother, first found out about my gambling problem, she could not believe it. She said that because she hadn't noticed anything unusual, it gave her a guilty feeling afterwards.

My mother said she was frightened and worried... shocked and upset for me that it could happen. At the time they didn't know whether I would be able to get over it, and didn't like to see me ruining my life.

I stole a couple of hundred pounds from her. She and dad were away for a month. I just went berserk - ran up various bills... I'm paying it back now and she feels happier now. But she still finds it hard to accept that I will probably use GA as a lifelong crutch.

WHERE TO GET HELP

Britain's first Gamblers Anonymous group began in London in 1964. The organization has since snowballed, and each local group is self-supporting, the only condition of membership being a genuine desire to stop gambling.

Gerry, public relations officer for GA (Southern Area) says: "We don't preach... Members learn to come to terms with their addiction by growing strong and maturing."

Delegates at GA's national conference in 1983 decided to

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Why Petranella just had to go

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY

Holiday time again, and Tintagel beckons. What was good enough for King Arthur is certainly good enough for a child of four with an imagination that makes no concessions to the present day.

The far future and the distant past are his most habitable regions. I gather we will be dining nightly (or is it nightly?) from a round table, all dressed in armour. Not bad for £120 a week.

Some families have all the luck: the Cottles, who moved in six months ago, are not among them. For a start, they are very, very short indeed.

That in itself is no bad thing, variety being the essence of any neighbourhood. The trouble is that the four of them - the parents and the two young boys - go around the place with expressions that so resent the lack of inches that they seem to be blaming it on everyone else.

The father has a tiny bottle with an abbreviated frowny which he takes everywhere, even on the hottest of days: the mother chumps the pavement with fantastic silhouettes and a hairdo lacquered up into a cloud formation.

The sons meanwhile have tried to sculpt their tank forelocks into quiffs, but they tumble over their foreheads in stiff splatters when the wind blows. It is very unfortunate that this family should find itself living next door to the aptly named Longs, where even the teenage girls are hitting the lift mark.

Everything confirms the disparity. The Longs' house is a great thin spindle of a thing while the Cottles' squats there at knee-level.

The Longs have high-stepping labradors that lope to the park gates in a couple of bounds, while the Cottles have dach-



hands so low-stung that they are broken by their bellies on the gravel.

All the Longs' seedlings seem to have matured into surflovers, beaming at the sky on equal terms, while the Cottles can manage nothing better than a patch of scurrying shrimbers.

The Longs are serene and the Cottles are furious, and each unit is so obsessed by the other that they all spend hours in quiet mutual espionage.

This, of course, is easier for the Longs than it is for the Cottles. The other day Mr Long edged his way to the party fence and came face to face with Mr Cottle, inching his way above the hollyhocks on a step-ladder.

All this I have from an unlikely source, my horrible lawyer friend, Parvis Maitland, who loves to observe the social ballets of the locality. Sadist that he is, he has invited the Longs and Cottles (and their children) to a drinker party. We are also invited, and I must admit I am drawn to the idea.

An era is drawing to a close, for Petranella is to leave the district. The "For Sale" sign was up outside her great Victorian pile for just a day before it was replaced by a "Sold" one. It has gone for a quite mind-numbing price, rumours of which has round the streets in an inflationary spiral.

Naturally there is an ambiguity in the reactions. On the one hand all the neighbours dislike Petranella and her family, and begrudge them a swathing profit; on the other, it bodes well for their own properties.

in his back pocket, from which he peels layers flashily for the millman and other unidentified tradesmen.

Something tells me he is on the wide side of the antiques business, the kind of man from whom you would not buy a used bureau.

When the "For Sale" sign went up, there were hopes (never voiced but clearly felt) that things had gone wrong for them somehow, that they were having to sell up and get somewhere smaller, and that any amount now the balliffs would arrive to gratify the public desire for a really good bit of humiliation.

But no, the family's mobility is so upward that we can hang on to them no longer. They are off to perhaps the choicest rum of this leafy suburb, where titled people live next door to television presenters.

And so to Cornwall. I know that it was one of Benjamin's favourite counties, but I do think he could have vented a little spleen (the kind he applied to Slough) on the county's food.

You wouldn't think you could go too far wrong with pasties here, or indeed with the fish, given the proximity of the sea. The cod, alas, has all the qualities of a fairly large waiter - an empty wallet. My children, having stowed in the casing with massive fork-blows, find that the actual fish has done a Flaubert.

As for the pasty, it could double nicely as a very dead armadillo and the chips as petrified ships. The serving of peas is interesting though, having the consistency of chutney. I shall write of the £1.50 "pancakes" at a later date, however, as my stomach has started to turn, and nausea's early warning signal, a sort of salt water sensation in the back teeth, has arrived.

The fruit bombe strategy

THE TIMES COOK

Shona Crawford Poole

Escoffier named 87 bombes from Bombe Aboukir (pistachio and praline) by way of Mathilde (Kirsch and apricot) and Richelieu (rum and coffee) to Bombe Zamora (coffee and Cacao). Very likely there were others that he did not bother to list in his great work, *The Complete Guide to Modern Cookery*, published in 1902.

A traditional bombe mould - that oddly elongated dome rather than its wide - obviously gets its shape from the practice of burying it in a bucket of ice, which was the way everyone froze ices before freezers were commonplace.

Made of copper, and costly, proper bombe moulds do turn out pretty iced puddings. Concentric layers of sorbet or ice cream, or both, in contrasting flavours and colours, look and taste good. But why stick to tradition?

Rope in mixing bowls, fluted brioche tins and jelly moulds to shape plain and fancy bombes. Use a rectangular loaf tin to mould a layered brick that will cut into supple slices. Or make a tartar sauce, freeze it, freeze the tartar sauce in one large soufflé dish or several individual ones with high paper collars tied round them. Before serving, peel away the paper to leave

the ice standing above the rim of the dish.

There are three points to remember when making moulded ices:

● Chill the mould in the freezer before filling it.

● Soften the ice cream or sorbet to serving temperature in the refrigerator before using it to fill the mould.

● Freeze every layer until firm as it is added to the mould before adding the next.

raspberries, strawberries and juicy cherries and I made them into a kind of summer pudding sorbet.

It had a sharp redcurrant layer, a sweeter raspberry layer and in between a blackcurrant ice made with wine in it and big black cherries which had been stoned and soaked in brandy and sugar.

Of course, a scoop of any of these could have been served alone. And it would have been more usual to combine a sorbet with a layer of vanilla or fruit flavoured ice cream in a two-layer bombe, with maybe a liqueur-flavoured parfait in a three-layer ice. The scope for personal variation is endless.

The recipes for redcurrant sorbet and raspberry parfait are served separately. For a spectacular frozen soufflé, freeze the parfait mixture in one large soufflé dish or several individual ones with high paper collars tied round them. Before serving, peel away the paper to leave

the ice standing above the rim of the dish.

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Redcurrant sorbet Makes about 1 litre (1 1/4 pints) 900g (2lb) ripe redcurrants Juice of 1 orange 225g (8oz) granulated sugar 2 tablespoons cognac

Rinse and drain the redcurrants and strip them from their

stems. Then press the fruit through a sieve and mix the juice with the orange juice, sugar and cognac; or process the fruit with the orange juice and sugar, and sieve it before adding the cognac to the purée.

If you have time, leave the sweetened purée to stand for a few hours in a cool place. The rest intensifies the flavour.

Freeze the purée, covered, in a flat-bottomed metal or plastic box until it is almost firm. Turn it into a bowl, beat it vigorously to smooth the ice, and return it to the freezer until it is quite firm.

This formula produces a tart sorbet with a dense texture. The addition of one or two egg whites, whisked to a firm meringue with two tablespoons of icing sugar and added to the sorbet when it is beaten, softens both the taste and texture of the ice. It also greatly increases its volume.

Raspberry parfait Makes about 1 litre (1 1/4 pints) 225g (8oz) raspberries 85g (3oz) granulated sugar Juice of 1 lemon 3 egg yolks 85g (3oz) icing sugar 150ml (1/4 pint) double cream

Press the raspberries through a sieve and stir in the granulated sugar and lemon juice. Or process the fruit with the sugar and lemon juice and sieve the purée. Set it aside.

Put the egg yolks in quite a large bowl with the icing sugar and beat the mixture over a bowl of simmering water. When it is warm it will become very pale and fluffy. Remove it from the heat and continue beating until it is cool.

Whip the cream until it holds firm peaks. Fold the fruit purée and cream into the egg meringue. This mixture needs no further beating during freezing, which makes it ideal for iced soufflés, the centre of ice cream bombes, and individual iced desserts. The flavour may be varied with a sweetened purée of any of the soft fruits.

Whole fresh soft fruits, or dried or candied fruit chopped and soaked in a liqueur may be folded into the parfait just before it is frozen. Roasted and ground almonds or hazelnuts and cognac also make lovely parfait flavours.

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THE TIMES DIARY

We'll not meet again

The Americans have launched yet another onslaught on the dress style of our Royal Family. Commenting in the *Los Angeles Times* on the recent royal visit, "Society Editor" Jody Jacobs condemns the "brusque" Princess Anne as a daytime "dowdy" - a print cotton with not much distinction... a two-piece silk dress... adding a patronizing "in a nice English way". The Princess's white shoes, especially the sling-back pumps, observes Miss Jacobs, "were a bit worn". Rayne the royal shoe-maker should take note she adds unreasonably. Princess Anne, she says "cannot be called a beauty" - and one of these days she'll grow into that rather severe looking upturned collar.

Eaten by curiosity

I fear Jeffrey Archer has lost his appetite - not for publicity, but for lunch. As I reported, he is due to lunch with Mrs Thatcher today, but claims that I have "personally ruined it". He insists he has not been drafted in by Mrs T. to counteract the banana skins, although he was distinctly heard booming in his usual way, that he had one or two ideas "for this PR business for the Government". He says he has no idea why Mrs T. has invited him.

Reed International shareholders' stomachs were left rumbling yesterday at their AGM, when it was announced the company did not have facilities to provide refreshments. It is as well they did not spot a party of 27 Reed bigwigs march out to enjoy a hearty lunch at the nearby Savoy Hotel's Pinetree Room.

Beg the question

I know our hospitals serve the whole community, but a mandarin from a nationalized industry tells me he was dumfounded by the sick note recently received from the Dreadnought Hospital at Greenwich. At the bottom it read: "This certificate is available for 14 days from the date of issue. It must not be used for begging purposes."

A fine dance

The Royal Ballet soon won't have a leg to dance on: the exodus of male dancers from the company continues apace. The retirement at only 38 of David Wall from the Covent Garden company comes after Graham Fletcher and Douglas Howes pirouetted off stage for good. Now I hear young soloist Stephen Sheriff, flavour of the month with the critics, has handed in his resignation. Things are no better at Sadler's Wells where leading man David Ashnole has left for Australia. Following on his heels is Michael Bachelore, who quit so suddenly that a guest dancer from Holland, Henry Jurriens, has been drafted in to open the new season at Cambridge this September. An unflappable Royal Ballet spokeswoman assured me: "It's just icy feet."

Barry Fantoni



"I don't know about you, but 'building society' robbers don't have the same ring"

Mobile home

The tinkers of Hampstead Heath have moved downmarket to Kilburn. Although they are not as 'local' as residents are no happier than were the Foots at the newcomers. Especially rate is the British Legion, whose building is next to where 30 caravans are now parked. What riles members most are rumours that the itinerants were blithely waved on to the new des. at the dead of night by police supervising the Hampstead eviction.

Nice here, innit?

Terry Bushell, the communist *Morning Star* writer who fears the Russians will penalize him for criticizing Moscow - albeit "after a few vodkas" - should relax. I am confident that by next spring he will be back in his comrades' favour, with the publication of his book *'Marriage of Inconvenience'*. In it he relates his Russian wife Lara's impressions of England. "She doesn't like England, she doesn't like the English. She thinks they are shallow and insincere - smiling and calling you 'love' when they don't mean it. And she doesn't like the food here - it's artificial, all chemicals and gunge, isn't it?" Yes, love.

PHS

Too soon for a package

by Sarah Hogg

Economics editor

promise of what its full maturity will be like. Therefore the Treasury and the spending ministries are simultaneously arguing over the pattern of expenditure during 1985-86 and worrying if the Government's forecast of total public sector borrowing for 1984-85 is going to "overshoot". And it is this immediate objective which most agitates the City.

So a "package" or "mini-budget" is not, strictly speaking, anything to do with the stream of decisions that have to be made about the year ahead. Of course chancellors who wish to launch a mini-budget with maximum impact are not above tossing in decisions which will not bear fruit until later years: a cut in national insurance, for example, or a boost to public investment. But the true "mini-budget" (or "package" of spending decisions) is a set of emergency measures designed to put right those things which have gone wrong in the year already under way.

Well, what has gone wrong? The Chancellor has already needed to borrow more than half his target total for the full year 1984-85, though the City grudgingly accepts his argument that public finances will be peculiar this year, with much more coming in during the second half. Second, the public sector borrowing requirement is, however, a mug's game. The Treasury's average forecasting error is more than £3 billion, compared with a total forecast for this year of only £7.25 billion. Both the Treasury and the City have been known to be as much as £2 billion out - in either direction - just a few weeks before the end of the financial year.

What the City has therefore been studying more closely is the broad-and-butter evidence on public spending. Some of it is pretty indigestible. Public sector pay is running well above the 3 per cent allowed. The miners' strike costs money; the Government's unofficial rule of thumb is only £25m a week but City analysts have no difficulty in producing figures more than twice as large - producing totals of up to £1 billion for the full year.

Unemployment is higher than forecast: though the cost of this is partly offset by a social security uprating which was a little lower than forecast. But the local authorities are again overspending; even by Budget time it was accepted that they would overspend the figures laid down the previous autumn by up to £1 billion. So the Chancellor's "contingency reserve" of £2.75 billion is beginning to look a tight fit.

There is, however, some double-counting in the worst of the scare figures. The overshoot on public-sector pay theoretically adds more than half a billion pounds to the Government's bills; but part of that is absorbed into general local authority overspending and some will be squeezed into cash limits by central government. Only about £300m for the health service is being

directly charged to the contingency reserve.

What's more, part of this pay overshoot will wing its way back to government in higher income tax and national insurance. And there is better news for the Government on the revenue side: North Sea oil is earning many more depreciated pounds - perhaps half a billion - than the Budget forecasts allowed for, since they were prepared at a higher exchange rate. All of which suggests that the Government could exceed its spending target without running into trouble with its forecast for the overall public sector borrowing requirement.

Clearly that would not be a wholly satisfactory outcome, and one which would leave the City prone to forecasting jitters. But this leeway does suggest it is too soon for emergency action.

For mini-budgets have their costs: not the least of which is that they appear to let the over-spenders off the hook. In last year's "July package", the Chancellor had to cut back the budgets of those Government programmes which had kept to targets in order to make room for others' excesses.

Something of the same sort is happening in the Cabinet battles over next year's spending. The £850m extra for the local authorities in 1985-86 announced by Mr Patrick Jenkin yesterday will have to come out of the reserve or be clawed out of other people's budgets. Government time and energy are better spent getting a grip on the chronic overspenders than shooting from the hip in the middle of each financial year.

Roger Boyes on the reception awaiting Jaruzelski's freed opponents

Warsaw General Jaruzelski has two faces. The first and most widely photographed is the one hidden behind dark glasses, as inscrutable as Buddha, curtained from public examination. When the mask slips, when the tinted lenses are replaced by plastic reading glasses, a new face emerges: soft, blurred, the face of an over-ambitious bank manager.

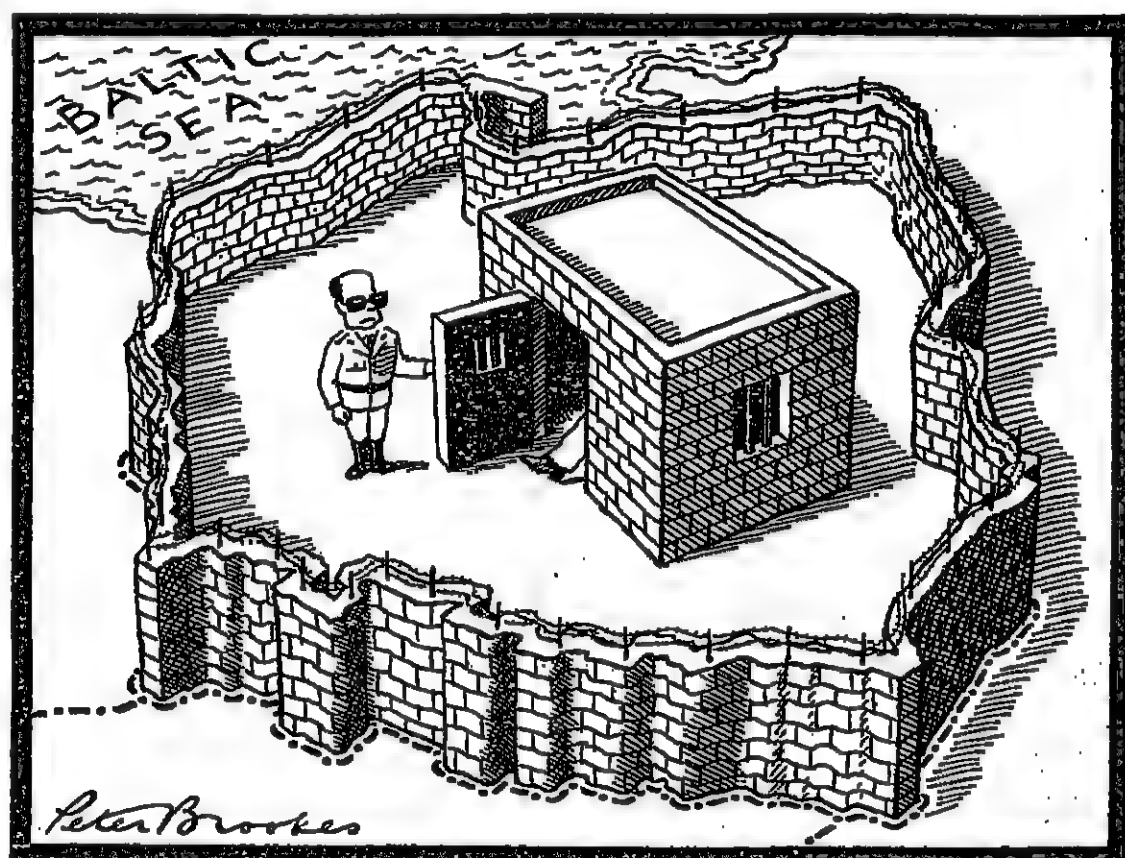
Last weekend the bank manager rather than the Buddha stood up to tell the Polish Parliament that an amnesty for political prisoners was a supreme act of humanitarianism, a token of confidence in the nation. However nervously the message was delivered, it has to be conceded that the amnesty was generous: 625 political prisoners to be freed; 35,000 common criminals, including many young people who were arrested on civil charges during demonstrations and above all the Solidarity leaders and their four advisers, members of the workers' self-defence committee (KOR).

How should the West react - with generosity or with scepticism - and what are the prospects for peaceful but radical reform in Poland now that General Jaruzelski has freed the whole of the political opposition? For the past few days, in their living rooms, in their country dachas, in clubs and restaurants and church vestries, the country's critical intelligence has been toying with these problems. The first task has been to analyze the motives for the amnesty correctly. It may have been wide ranging but it was neither particularly bold nor particularly "liberal".

"It would have been braver, though perhaps not wiser, to put the Solidarity 11 on trial and show the nation that the Government has confidence in its mission and that it has the political will to convert the political revolution into legal responsibility." Thus one Catholic intellectual close to the prime minister, Cardinal Jozef Glemp. "By failing to put Solidarity on trial *en bloc* it has demonstrated the illegitimacy of holding the leadership in prison for two and a half years."

The amnesty is also not a triumph for the liberalism of the Government. Two inspired leaks from the Communist Party tried to project the idea of a power struggle in the Politburo before the announcement of the amnesty. The final decision could thus be portrayed as the victory of the Jaruzelski "moderates" over hard-baked security apparatchiks. But as the dissident Jacek Kuron said a long time before he was locked up in 1981: "I don't believe in a liberal wing of the party, only in the pragmatism of the people in power."

The amnesty was a pragmatic move, planned many months ago. Since the beginning of the year the number of political prisoners has swung between 300 and 600 and an overwhelming majority of them



Poland holds its breath

have never been put on trial. Many were arrested only on suspicion. The idea was to inflame the amnesty, publicize it as a turning point and thus, enhanced by drama, unlock the sanctions against Poland.

At this stage it is difficult to know what the soon-to-be released political opposition would like the West to do next. Certainly those Solidarity supporters who are free and who are close to the Catholic Church believe that sanctions should eventually be lifted. Some argue for piecemeal measures lest the Government rearrest dissidents as soon as they become active again. But most support the complete suspension of sanctions: not just the American landing rights, but also food aid and other economic assistance.

The aim of sanctions was to bring about the lifting of martial law, the freeing of all political prisoners and the restoration of a dialogue between the Government and the Roman Catholic Church and Solidarity. Only Solidarity is missing. As Andrzej Gwiazda, one of the Solidarity leaders to be released, said at the weekend: "They did not put the tanks into the streets in order to allow the resurgence of Solidarity. There's not much chance of that."

All the realistic aims of sanctions have now been met; perhaps as a result of them.

But dissidents think the lifting of sanctions should not mean the abandonment of western policy towards peaceful change within Poland. An amnesty achieves little more than an emptying of the prison cells - which may well be filled again if the summer proves politically hot - and is certainly not a commitment to a pluralistic society in which opposing, non-conformist views can be voiced and heard.

At the same time as it dismantles sanctions, the West must therefore make a strong moral commitment to the aims of the political opposition, the dissidents argue.

One sees the point, but the West has already come perilously close to meddling in Poland's internal affairs (the standard Soviet bloc defence of human rights criticisms from the West) without achieving very much. Western diplomats in Warsaw are waiting first to see what shape the future opposition will take. There is a school of thought that the underground leadership should now disband, ceding their role to the democratically elected Solidarity leaders about to leave Rakowiecka

Prison. Certainly there will have to be a meeting between the fugitive underground chiefs, the freed KOR strategists, the seven Solidarity leaders and Lech Walesa, the chairman of Solidarity.

If they can survive that meeting without being arrested, then some clarity should emerge. Mr Kuron's defence speech, undelivered because of the postponement of his trial, gives some pointers. The Solidarity opposition will have to work out ways of putting pressure on the authorities to reform, to open up more space for critical noises from workers and intellectuals without frightening General Jaruzelski's friends and neighbours.

As General Jaruzelski's enemies leave prison, one by one, the security service will be on high alert. Above all, they will want to prevent Mr Kuron making new contacts with workers. It seems safe to predict a summer of harassment and observation, as the authorities and the opposition scout out the new territory.

"We are all going to have to move very carefully," one dissident told me while switching off a television image of General Jaruzelski laying an expensive wreath. "The opposition, the new boys and the old boys, the Church, the police, the Government and yes, you too - the West. Very carefully."

Robin Cook A petrol bomb in the House

Let us begin by setting the record straight. I drive a modest Chevette; not at all flashy but perfect for constituency work. It is one of those models with only two doors which boosts your confidence while bringing electors to the ballot booths, as they know they cannot escape from the back seat until I have made it to the polling station. There is a capacious hatchback at the rear, down which I stuff the posters, leaflets and billboards which compose the travelling samples of our trade.

Last Friday the Commons held its annual debate on Members' allowances. Prominent among the decisions put before it by the Government was a new system of calculating car expenses, which will vary the rate per mile with the size of the engine capacity. This has the disconcerting consequence for me of penalizing my modest taste in vehicles, by cutting the mileage allowance I can claim by a third.

In itself, this is neither new nor necessarily objectionable. MPs have long experienced of purging materialism, by ritually rejecting recommended increases in their remuneration with which various independent reviews have commended governments. This further sacrifice secures for the public a benign pleasure in reflecting that, even today, there are still some motivations stronger than monetary rewards, I should be modestly content to make it and to stop complaining.

There lurks, however, in the new arrangement a parallel proposal which I fear will not attract the same unanimity of public approbation. As the rate per mile accelerates with the grandeur of the car, those members who can afford to buy a Jaguar or a Mercedes will qualify for a jump in allowance to 39p per mile, more than double the rate set for those of us at the bottom of the scale, and well in excess of any other public sector mileage allowance.

Plainly this element changes the symbolism. The new arrangements are not intended, as I first thought, as a further noble example of self-abnegation by the nation's legislators. It must have been carefully devised as a public paradigm of Mrs Thatcher's Britain, in which those who have the capital get the revenue, and those who do not get exploited.

In keeping with this pattern the largesse offered by the Leader of the House to the owners of gas-guzzling models does not extend to the staff who work for them. The term "staff" in this context is something of an exaggeration, as on the same day the Government successfully threw out a backbench amendment to increase the secretarial allowance to a level which would enable MPs to hire a second employee. Only those members with access to private sources of funding can afford

a full-time research assistant in addition to a full-time secretary.

This has the undignified consequence given to backbenchers depends on a regular supply of fresh American students completing temporary placements as part of their course in politics. There is a shrewd suspicion among Members that successive governments have kept them in a state of such exigency on the cynical calculation that Parliament will be much less troublesome if its members are kept ignorant and under-resourced.

Cowardice is a contributory reason for the persistence of this lamentable situation. As office costs are credited to each member in the form of a secretarial allowance, the House has regularly recoiled from a realistic increase in resources, for fear of being perceived to be surreptitiously lining its back pockets.

The result is that election to Parliament can be a humbling experience. One new Member in last week's debate described how his attempts floundered to bring with him the secretary who had worked for him in industry, when she was confronted with what was to be her office. Her astuteness is understandable. As a royal palace, Westminster enjoys immunity from the legislation which Parliament has imposed which sets down minimum standards of working conditions.

Full advantage of this has been taken in the past by herding secretaries into working environments that might have been chosen for their ability to induce sensory deprivation, and offering each secretary rather less space than the interior of a Mercedes.

Complaints by new Members are invariably put down by some veteran, rebuking them with the reminder that things used to be much worse. Undeniably this is true. There are still Members in the House who can remember being required to pay out of their salary for the postage on their constituency correspondence. It is not, however, a convincing reason for putting up with an unsatisfactory situation.

The real problem lies in Parliament's refusal to face up to the increasing demands made of its Members. The reluctance to recognize their need for even only two full-time staff is rooted in outmoded habits of mind formed when the job of MP itself was not regarded as a full-time one.

Now that the Leader of the House has been persuaded that it is a job which requires full reimbursement for the cost of running a limousine, he could usefully spend the next year considering whether it may not also require adequate office facilities.

The author is Labour MP for Livingston

Digby Anderson

Let buses pull out all the stops

Nicholas Ridley's White Paper on bus deregulation signals his intention to break up the National Bus Company and privatize it next year. I wonder if he could be persuaded to change his mind - and break it up by Monday.

I know the evidence is not conclusive. Nobody in their right mind expects "evidence" on such topics to be conclusive. In this case the opposing sides each claim that the limited experience of deregulation in Hereford backs their own case. That is not unusual: it tells us next to nothing about buses and a considerable amount about the uselessness of the social sciences in policy formation. There are other sorts of evidence.

I have been a customer of the National Bus Company for the journey of some 50 miles into London. I was one of several refugees from that strike-ridden, snow-rain-heat-and-wind-sensitive, unpunctual, over-manned, filthy, and rude organization, British Rail. In comparison, our new mobile sanctuary is bliss: punctual, clean, reliable, polite, two-thirds of the former journey time and less than half the price.

There is the odd problem. Occasional increases in demand seem to catch the managers on the hop. Everybody knows that after several weeks' tranquillity, parents panic at the threat of approaching half-term and heave their offspring to clutter up London's museums and strip clubs, every parent, apparently except the managers of my part of the NBC. Less predictably, there are days when 40-strong contingents of robust, rural ladies from the Women's Institute commandeer the coach at an early stop; the managers appear surprised when the usual 40 commuters cannot be fitted in later on and belatedly send out a "duplicate".

Other "occasional" peaks in demand occur during the four weeks around Christmas, the six weeks of the summer holidays, Wimbledon fortnight, the Venice exhibition, every Monday and Friday, and indeed at all times except the third Tuesday in November when normal demand is registered. In other words the service is a great success.

If there is one thing the typical nationalized industry appears to resent more than contraction it is success. Success requires thought and change - in this case new timetables, more buses and a sophisticated information service to signal loads along the route. I am told parts of the NBC have responded to success with enthusiasm and entrepreneurial flair, and are likely to do well in competition next year. My own service prefers a traditional approach and does next

to nothing except apologize. This is presumably on the grounds that the success is not its fault - it never sought new customers through aggressive advertising - and in the hope that if customers are delayed and inconvenienced enough they will go away and it can relax again.

That has not happened yet because the alternative, British Rail, is too horrible to contemplate. But things are getting worse and the school summer holidays are on, another unnatural peak.

What is required is the insertion of a sharp pin in the bureaucrats' bottoms. Transport economists claim to have the equivalent of such a weapon and call it a "contestable market". Whatever the merits of other views in the White Paper, the "contestable market" is essential. It means simply that new entrants can come into the bus business and that the existing companies should be uncomfortable aware of that. The door to competition should remain open. It is the contestable market, like the pin, which will propel the manager of the successful service into action or redundancy.

There are those who do not want buses to be an efficient transport service but an inefficient social service. They advocate a vast nationalized system, because it enables the profit-making routes to subsidize loss-making routes and the towns services to subsidize the country. While the rich in society should help the poor, this is a silly and perverse way to go about redistribution. It is not the rich who use and pay for profit-making routes but, often, the poor, and the loss-making routes are well-used by the rich.

As for the rural whiners, one suspects that they are mostly former townies who wish to make the country like the town, full of buses, post and social security offices. Buses will not help them achieve their ghastly dream but may well destroy genuine country assets by encouraging villagers to desert village shops for the cheaper supermarkets in the town near by. It really time to chase these invaders from the country by charging economic prices for telephones, roads, sewerage and other services which cost more to operate there.

The central objections to the break-up of the NBC, that we do not know precisely what will happen and it might be an unplanned mess, are risks that have to be taken. Anyway, unplanned messes are to be preferred to planned ones and often turn out to be messes only from a theorist's or bureaucrat's point of view.

Out, or rather in, with the pin Mr Ridley, preferably by Monday.

The author is director of the Social Affairs Unit



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SHAMIR'S MORAL VICTORY

Israel today is a deeply divided nation. That has been apparent ever since the Likud block swept to power under Mr Begin's leadership in 1977. It was noted then that, although Mr Begin himself and most of his political lieutenants were of Ashkenazi (European) origin, the bulk of his support came from "Sephardim" - Jews of Afro-Asian, particularly North African, stock. For many of those people, the underdogs of Israeli society, the Labour Party had become identified with a European ruling class.

Mr Begin's achievement in domestic politics was to hold on, once in power, to what had started as a protest vote. Unfortunately he did so at the price of deepening rather than healing the divisions in Israeli society. In the 1981 election campaign, especially, he skillfully exploited, and thereby encouraged, feelings of class and ethnic hatred combined with xenophobic chauvinism.

Sephardic support for Mr Begin gave a sense of legitimacy to extremists (themselves, in fact, mainly Ashkenazi) who wanted to go further than Mr Begin: in using counterterrorism against the Arabs of the West Bank, in plotting to start a religious war by blowing up the Aqsa mosque, even - in the case of Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach movement - by demanding the expulsion of all Arabs from "the Land of Israel". In February 1983, when a demonstrator calling for the resignation of the defence minister over the Sabra-Shatila massacre was killed by a hand-grenade, Israel stared into the abyss of inter-Jewish war.

Mr Begin defused that crisis by moving Mr Sharon out of the defence ministry. Later in the year his own departure from the political scene further lowered

the temperature, permitting this year's election campaign to be a quiet, lacklustre affair. The Labour opposition, counting on disillusionment with the war in Lebanon and with the economic chaos (including 400-per-cent inflation) caused by Likud's policies, chose not to dramatize matters. The assumption was that, without Mr Begin to cheer them on, a decisive fraction of the Sephardic working class would come back to voting Labour provided they were not provoked to any new bout of hysteria.

It has not happened. Mr Begin's successor, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, can claim a moral victory even though the Likud has won seven fewer seats than in 1981. Without Mr Begin's charisma, without resorting to any of the dramatic gestures that Mr Begin employed in 1981, and in spite of having to cope with the less pleasant economic and political consequences of Mr Begin's policies, Mr Shamir has held on to the bulk of his support. Above all, what he has lost has not benefited Labour - or if it has, its value is more than cancelled out by Labour losses to other parties. For the Labour Party itself, in an election which had seemed the perfect opportunity for any opposition, emerges with two seats fewer than in 1981.

Some gains have been made by small parties of the left, but not enough to give Labour any realistic hope of leading a coalition government even though it is once again the largest group in the new Knesset. Some gains have been made by small parties of the right - including Rabbi Kahane himself, who enters the Knesset for the first time. The religious camp is now split into five separate groups (two Ashkenazi, three Sephardic)

instead of three, but that will not make it any easier to deal with. Mr Ezer Weizmann in the centre has three seats (where his late colleague Moshe Dayan had two in 1981). With his support as well as that of all the right-wing and religious parties, Mr Shamir could in theory form a new government that would not need the vote of Rabbi Kahane.

But each of those parties will have its own demands to make and many of them will not be compatible with those of Mr Weizmann, who has emerged as a dove in his attitude to the Arabs and an advocate of stringency in economic matters. Mr Weizmann himself and several other leaders of small parties are on record as demanding a national unity government embracing both Labour and Likud. Their sincerity may be doubted, since such a coalition would deprive them of their own bargaining power, but the demand will certainly be echoed by the public, and the big parties will have to take it seriously - perhaps more seriously than they did when it was mooted last September after Mr Begin's resignation.

A coming together of two parties representing two halves of such a deeply divided country will not be easy, but it may be essential at least for a time - perhaps the time it takes to introduce a different electoral system. If it comes about, the rest of the world will hope that Labour secures, as the price of its participation, a moratorium on further Jewish settlement in the occupied territories and a timetable for Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. That would at least give a chance for some kind of Arab-Israeli peace process to re-establish itself after the US presidential election.

FREEDOM ON THE AIR

Radio piracy is a squalid business. It was the same twenty years ago, however valuable the lesson in culture and mass preference handed, the Wilson Government by Radio Caroline and the other illegal off-shore stations. It amounts to theft, notably from record companies and musicians; pirates are anarchists in the ether. And yet, when a local London newspaper reports that hundreds of British Cypriots jam a public hall to protest at the demise of an illegal Greek-language broadcaster (with a full log of paid advertisements), the signs are that pirate radio is satisfying a pent demand of some size. Pirates flourished in the 1960s because BBC network radio had stifled. If pirates are flourishing again it must be because local radio is failing to express the diversity of modern Britain's economy and society. Here is additional evidence that the rigid structure of frequencies and controls administered in duopoly by the BBC and the Independent Broadcasting Authority is failing to exploit radio's characteristics as a cheap and flexible secondary medium.

Chapter and verse will be given today by the Association of Independent Radio Contractors (all legal operators) when it lobbies Home Office ministers. The contractors will focus on rules that restrict shareholding and on levies - for the sake of

the IBA's grandiose programme of station development - which carry off profits; ultimately their claim is that local radio has in only a few locations put roots down in popular enthusiasm, whether commercial or cultural. Doubtless Mr Brittan and Mr Hurd will fob them off with hints of changes in IBA rules. What is needed is something altogether more radical.

In Britain radio has always been handed down to the listening populace like a gift from the state. Under the omnibus excuse that broadcasting frequencies are limited, both the BBC's and the IBA's local radio operations have been built up around a set of sub-Reithian corporatist policy ideas. In countries as diverse as the United States and France, recent experience has shown that local radio can benefit from a stripping away of rules and a liberalization of frequency allocation; local radio in Britain would surely benefit from some measure of deregulation.

Deregulation means defining the public interest in local broadcasting much more sharply: wondering on one side, whether public purposes are really served by BBC local stations which spend hours relaying Radio Two and which, after a decade or more, still lack either adequate funding or a sense of direction; puzzling, on

the other, over the need for the apparatus of control over the local commercial stations erected by the IBA.

Deregulation must mean the local radio map becomes untidy. Mr Dick Francis, the BBC's redoubtable director of radio, warns that liberalizing frequency allocation (de-coupling AM and FM outlets, a new generation of weak AM signals) would be "messy" and "confusing for the listeners". The attitude reflects the BBC's traditional quest for engineering perfection. Suffice it to say that with technological change there is growing room for manoeuvre on both AM and FM even before Britain goes into bat at the international frequency allocation conferences.

The handmaiden of such change is administrative simplification. Parliament would have to will greater freedom for stations big and small to vary their output of music and talk, to permit controversy on the air, to juggle with advertising time; the Government would probably also have to take a hand in limiting the demands by those broadcasting power blocks, the Musicians' Union and the Performing Right Society. Today the local commercial radio contractors are asking for a change of rules within an over-regulated system. What the Government should offer them is freedom.

PASSPORT TO SOMEWHERE ELSE

"Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State... Requests and requires... all those whom it may concern to allow the bearer to pass freely without let or hindrance..." On how many a dark night in a Transylvanian, bothy, or a littered departure lounge where huddled masses wait in perpetuity, have not those ringing phrases and that stiff, severe pastebord, liveried in navy and gold, comforted the flagging British traveller far from home? If all else fails, one could envisage fighting off the alien hordes with desperate swings of its sharp edges and corners.

A deplorable document, plainly, an incentive to the worst excesses of chauvinism: no wonder the EEC has plans to do away with it, and introduce a common colour and format throughout its domains. The Government are committed to going along with the plan, being in need of issues where they can claim to be behaving like good Europeans.

From 1987 onwards, expiring passports of the current type, stiff as a British upper lip, will be replaced by smaller soft-covered documents in a shade of burgundy or, not to put too fine a point on it, light puce. The lion and unicorn will survive in

slightly smaller format, as well as the majestic challenge to "all whom it may concern", backed with its familiar unforgeable aurora borealis. On the back page it will also have a two-line message, also in standard international format, encapsulating the bearer's total being in terms capable of being read and appreciated by a computer.

This innovation will seem suspicious to many. A coded machine-readable message could in theory mean that travellers might be tagged with information about their citizenship, political stance and credit-worthiness without their knowing it. In practice the strip is legible, easily deciphered, and contains no information that is not already present in the passport. Most users will welcome it if mechanical checking helps to speed up the queues at passport control, and the computerization which will make it possible.

Even this may appear sinister to some. The more accessible and ubiquitous the passport becomes, the more it might in practice approximate to that abomination against British liberties, the identity card. Identity documents - driving licences, credit cards, library tickets - are already a convenience and a

vexation of modern life. They would only become oppressive if linked to compulsion or to a surveillance which the holder has no control over. The fears are real, but the proposed passport would not in itself increase the threat.

More objections are likely to take offence at the proposal because the new passport would be "un-British". Though technically issued in the name of Her Majesty's Government, it would have European Community stamps on the front, and look just like those banal documents that other nations have to carry. The very fact that the new passport is designed to express Community solidarity would be enough to damn it in some eyes - and true liberty of travel would be the best expression of the Community spirit, without passports at all. But it would be a little absurd to raise too much heat over the current pattern, which was introduced as recently as 1920, within living memory, and not as an expression of Imperial splendour, but in conformity with a League of Nations project for a standard international form. It would be ironical for the little Englanders to work up a passion over a format which only breathes the last enchantments of the League of Nations.

Pledge for issue of injunctions

From Sir David Napley

Sir, The media, understandably, give much coverage to the financial consequences likely to follow from the mindless irresponsibility of those who seek to disrupt society. Little attention, however, is given to another potential casualty, namely the administration of justice.

Respect for the law, its observance and efficient enforcement are the very cornerstones of liberty and freedom. Who can blame members of the public for disregarding the law as it affects them when they see the courts repeatedly being treated with contempt by others?

The granting of injunctions is part of the equitable jurisdiction of the High Court. Equity has long boasted that, like nature, it does nothing in vain. This is no longer true. Whilst the initial application may be a matter for the parties, disobedience of the court's orders is primarily a matter between the courts and those subject to them.

It is suggested that, in future, before any court grants an injunction, it should ask the applicant whether he undertakes to seek to enforce the order if it is disobeyed, otherwise directors of such undertakings, that order be refused than that they be seen by the public, when granted, to be treated with contempt, which goes unpunished.

Machinery, currently lacking, needs urgently to be devised to bring before the court those who disobeyed its orders where they would otherwise go by default. It must constantly be demonstrated that more than lip service is paid to the rule of law and the imperative need to uphold it.

Yours faithfully, DAVID NAPLEY, 107-115 Long Acre, WC2.

Holes in the safety net

From Sister Norma Nelson

Sir, The purpose of Church Army was questioned when we were accused (July 20) of turning away someone from our hostel in Westminster.

Church Army is totally committed to helping and caring for the single homeless in its hostels. But we respect the rights and dignity of all who are referred to us, and that includes the right to say "No". Our officer felt there were indications that the man referred to by Messrs Govett and Saunde did not wish to stay in a hostel.

All of our hostel staff have authority in emergencies to admit those in need without payment and we deeply regret that in this instance our help was not accepted.

Yours faithfully,

NORMA M. NELSON, Head of Social Work, Church Army, Independents Road, Blackheath, SE3, July 23.

Computers as tools

From Mr Bancroft P. G. Gracey

Sir, Dr Shalish's letter (July 18) appears to betray a lack of familiarity with computers, for he completely misunderstands their future and their educational value for children.

Computers can no more "depersonalize teaching relationships" than schoolbooks or schools' programmes. It is the teacher that determines the use of book, TV or computer, not the author/producer/programmer, and his "imposed instructional thinking" must refer to badly designed programs or badly structured languages (like Fortran or most forms of Basic) and not to the machines themselves.

Computers are extremely generalized machines. They can control equipment such as VDUs, printers, etc, and observe keyboards, light pens, etc, but they are tools just as much as pen and paper. Children must learn to use them and not just their programs.

Children are not easily converted into "mini-adults" but they can learn to use their abilities, particularly their minds, and thus enjoy their childhood even more. This should be the main use of the computer in education - certainly the graphics tablet will not replace "traditional methods of painting". Those parents who express concern about computers in education echo the fears of earlier parents who were afraid of what literacy would do to their children. It would be far better if their "genuine concern" was directed at its proper target - the total lack of tuition about how to think.

Yours faithfully,

B. P. GRACEY, 17 Seltirk Road, Curzon Park, Chester, July 19.

Pricking the bubbles

From Mrs Margaret Dilks

Sir, My late husband was chairman of the British Launderers' Research Association for many years. He told me that when synthetic detergents were first marketed they produced little foam and housewives therefore distrusted them and went back to soaps with lots of bubbles, so visibly more cleansing power. Soda was added to soften hard water.

The manufacturers introduced a lather-producing agent and the sales rocketed - and have never looked back.

I'm afraid it will take more than a water shortage to kill this trust in bubbles. Perhaps a Government warning on the packet: Foam can seriously threaten your water supply. Yours faithfully, MARGARET I. DILKS, 12 Calcutt Park Court, Reading, Berkshire, July 16.

Dwindling resources for the NHS

From Mr Michael Meacher, MP for Oldham West (Labour)

Sir, The Commons Social Services Committee report on funding for the National Health Service (report, July 21) raises a number of alarming questions about resources for the service. To date the Government has sidestepped these questions by using figures which, as a result of evidence given by the Secretary of State's own civil servants to the committee, are now completely discredited.

In a recent letter Norman Fowler assured me that "with spending levels having reached 17 per cent the NHS is able to keep abreast of increasing pressures on it". Anxiety about resources for the health service have been expressed on a number of occasions. Readers of *The Times* may recall the letter earlier this year from distinguished members of the royal colleges, expressing their concern about inadequate funding and the implications for the health service.

Having paid no heed to mounting concern, the Secretary of State would be making himself a total hostage to fortune were he not to respond to the evidence from his civil servants.

As your article makes clear, far from rising by 17 per cent, Government spending on the health service has been nearer 7 per cent - indeed the committee's report goes on to show that in hospital and community health the figure is a miserable 4 per cent.

The implications of spending levels which are not keeping pace with current demands on the NHS, let alone providing cash for extending life-saving services like kidney and bone-marrow transplant units, mean that services are going to deteriorate to an even greater extent than feared by Sir Rustam Feroze and his colleagues.

Already jobs are being lost at a

record rate - 10,000 in the past nine months alone. Those who might see this as an exercise in efficiency savings should be reminded that most health care is provided by people and not machines.

The NHS is not a factory that can be automated; cuts in staff mean cuts in services. Hospitals are closing and wards lying unused because cash-starved health authorities simply can't scrape together enough money to keep them open.

What is the effect on patients? The British Medical Association recently estimated a 20 per cent increase in outpatient waiting lists over the past year. Unofficially the association is concerned that consultants have found existing lists so unmanageable that they are drawing up "stand-by" lists of people waiting to get on to the main queue.

These revelations, of course, come as no surprise to the many people who, having justly prided themselves on belonging to what was the best health service in the world, now find that, as their turn comes up, the resources to meet their needs are no longer there.

Until last week Norman Fowler had managed to keep the figures bearing out their experiences under lock and key. Now that the true facts have been revealed he must successfully fight his corner against the Chancellor as the Treasury embarks on yet another round of cuts in public spending.

Unless Mr Fowler is able to obtain increased resources for the NHS, Mrs Thatcher's words during the general election that the health service was safe in her hands will be totally discredited as a result of the ineptitude and blinkered arrogance of her Secretary of State.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL MEACHER, (Chief Opposition spokesman on health and social security), House of Commons, July 23.

do? Ride to market? It is hard to imagine any single measure which strikes more murderously at the very life of the English village and the English countryside.

Of course, the real point is that costs and benefits, in this case and many similar ones, simply cannot be calculated in purely economic (still less financial) terms, because they are not simply economic. They are none the less real costs and benefits - that is, they are real goods and real evils; and we ignore them at our peril, even if we cannot quantify them or even define them clearly.

Two examples may suffice. First, there are the huge benefits lost to society when a large proportion of its citizens, far from being aided to realise their talents, are forced to exchange their possible futures for immediate survival.

Second, there is the savage cost incurred by society as a whole when just these citizens begin to lose the sense that they are seen, and cared for, by the better-off members of one polity.

We can perhaps measure how far we have slipped in both ways by contrasting the present mood of frustration and depression with the optimism and vitality of England at the beginning of this century.

Yours faithfully,

JEREMY WALKER, Bramall, Mawgan Porth, Newquay, Cornwall, July 13.

Portable pensions

From Mr B. Richardson

Sir, With reference to your editorial today (July 18), as you say, Mr Fowler is not suggesting that employers should contribute to portable pensions other than the amount of the state rebate. However the reality is likely to be different as key employees of powerful groups represented by unions may negotiate employer contributions to portable pensions.

Having given the right to portability it will be difficult for the employer both morally and practically to differentiate between categories

of employees, namely those who remain in an occupational scheme and those who exercise a statutory option to have a portable pension, especially as the conventional wisdom is that pensions are deferred pay.

The outcome may be the demise of firm salary schemes to be replaced by money purchase arrangements.

Yours faithfully,

B. RICHARDSON, 348 Bennington Road, Aston, Stevedore, Hertfordshire, July 18.

Control of shotguns

From Mr J. H. Absalom

Sir, John Richards, of the British Association for Shooting and Conservation, raised important points in his letter of July 6.

We understand that chief constables are aware of the inadequacies in the control of all firearms and it is understood that the Home Office is currently considering the whole matter.

What additionally concerns members of the federation of which I am Hon Co-ordinator is the misuse of firearms often legally held.

There are farmers and landowners who legally use shotguns to shoot at deer because they find those beautiful animals a nuisance and causing damage. There are certified holders of rifles who are such bad shots that they leave deer seriously wounded when they attempt to kill. It would be so easy for those who have deer problems to contact one of the deer management societies, through us, so that deer can be dealt with humanely and kindly.

A thorough review of the whole issue of controls, certification, sales and uses of firearms is urgently necessary. Parallel with a review it may be possible to produce programmes for educating and qualifying firearms users.

Yours truly,

J. H. ABSALOM, Co-ordinator of the Deer Management Societies, The Old Well Cottage, Beech Road, Yorkley, Lydney, Gloucestershire, July 9.

Flag of inconvenience

From Mr C. P. Cottis

Sir, If Mr Hague (July 14) really wants to produce an authentic Jolly Roger he probably ought not to use the skull and crossbones at all.

Pirates certainly raised a black ensign, which they called the Jolly Roger, when attacking their prey and this ensign often bore ominous symbols to discourage resistance, especially since the black ensign, as opposed to the red one, implied a willingness to give quarter. These symbols might well include skulls or crossed bones or both, but there are few records of these two being used on their own.

A much more typical device would seem to be that borne by the great Captain Bartholomew Roberts, who is described by Captain Edward Johnson, in his *General History of the Pirates*, as sailing into Whidah with a St George's ensign, a black silk flag flying at their mizzen mast, and a jack and pendant of the same. The flag had a Death (presumably a skeleton) in it, with an hour-glass in one hand and cross bones in the other, a dart by it, and underneath a heart dropping three drops of blood. The jack had a man portrayed in it, with a flaming sword in his hand and standing on two skulls subscribed ABH and AMH, i.e. A Barbadian's and A Martinican's Head.

(Captain Roberts had adopted the jack as a result of the efforts that had been made to take him by the governors of Barbados and Martinique.)

Yours sincerely,

C. P. COTTIS, 21 Campion Road, SW15, July 17.

Tariff barriers to cheaper cars

From Mr R. A. P. King

Sir, The fresh evidence provided by BEUC (the European consumer research group) and reported in your paper yesterday (July 18) should be taken in conjunction with sales of motor cars in the UK to show the full scope and cost to the British consumer of the ring of hidden tariff barriers in motor vehicles around the country.

In 1983 sales of motor cars in Britain totalled 1.8 million and of this British Leyland had just under 19 per cent. Assuming conservatively that prices are £700 above what would be the market clearing price, British Leyland has a £240m subsidy paid for by the British consumer, while foreign-owned manufacturers are able to charge just over £1bn for their products more than they otherwise might. The usual unholy alliance of vested interests is at work to stifle proposals which will promote a free market and lighten the burden on the British consumer.

The British Government sees a subsidy of a quarter of a billion pounds to British Leyland, which, because it is indirect, is undebated and largely unknown. Without it, Leyland's products would be more difficult, European and other foreign motor manufacturers see increased revenues totalling over £1bn which they will fight to defend.

Any protectionist measures must clog the healthy workings of competition and have a direct cash cost in addition. The less protection there is the better for us all, but of all the forms of protection, surely the least efficient is a hidden levy of which over £1bn goes to foreign-owned manufacturers and to their distributors.

We need more of the refreshing initiatives which Mr Ridley is taking against protectionism in the air.

Yours faithfully,

RICHARD KING, Trade Policy Study Group, Centre for Policy Studies, 9 Wilfred Street, SW1, July 19.

Open golf prizes

From Miss Libby Weir-Breen

Sir, How delightful that the Royal & Ancient were not so greedy as to pocket the not insignificant proceeds from the record crowds at St Andrews last week but rather shared them out.

But how sad that their magnanimity took the form of additional prize money. After all, what is £3,000 to Sir Nick Faldo?

We are always struggling for financial support at the "grassroots" level in all our sports in Britain. Indeed, it is often this fact that is cited when we lament the lack of British success at top level.

Five thousand pounds, or however much was added to the total prize money, could have been magnificently invested in supporting our youngsters or increasing training facilities in this country.

Perhaps future bonanzas could be considered in this light.

Yours faithfully,

LIBBY WEIR-BREEN, Address, The Ross, Comrie, Perthshire, July 23.

Wigan market

From Mr David Ellis

Sir, The "Spectrum" article (July 11) on the plan to redevelop Wigan market is of great interest to me.

In 1974 I led the campaign to save the market hall and market place (dating back to 1200) in my home town of Chesterfield. The planners' ideas for a completely new shopping centre in Wigan are exactly what was planned for the centre of Chesterfield, contrary to what the shopkeepers and public wanted to see.

It was a very hard-fought campaign with demonstrations being organized, petitions collected and eventually a writ being served on Chesterfield Borough Council.

The people of Chesterfield won the day and have, along with the town council, never looked back. The town centre is a marvellous area now with the market and market hall beautifully preserved and small new "human" developments scattered around the town centre.

I suggest the members of Wigan council visit Chesterfield and take in what they see in 1984. The visit will definitely not be a waste and may even educate them to the real environment people want to live in.

Yours sincerely,

DAVID ELLIS, 27a Fairlight Road, SW17, July 11.

A dog's life

From Mr K. Cronin

Sir, Mr A. C. Norfolk (June 29) can take heart that he is not alone in crying in the wilderness. The other day I was about to embark on a major abdominal operation and the subject of the assisting veterinary surgeon cropped up.

As I made the initial skin incision the "scrubbed" theatre sister gloomily remarked: "I would prefer a vet any day to a lot of the surgeons I have seen."

So far, thank heavens, the patient is not doing too badly.

Yours faithfully,

K. CRONIN, Abbots Lea, Litchborough, Towcester, Northamptonshire.

From Mr Pat Adams

Sir, Thirty years ago, when we lived in Cheshire, our doctor and our vet were identical twins.

We sometimes wondered, and so, probably did our dog.

Yours faithfully,

PAT ADAMS, Savage Club, 9 Fitzmaurice Place, Berkeley Square, W1, July 18.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Tate & Lyle dreams over a cup of tea

Now that some of the surprise and excitement which greeted Tate & Lyle's £300m bid for Brooke Bond has subsided two facts are evident: Tate's move is much bolder than appeared at first sight; and it will require luck to complete the coup.

Tate is attempting nothing less than to signal the end of the painful recovery period which began in the dark, distant days of the mid-1970s and to herald a new era of transformation into a food multinational.

The new corporate vision reaches beyond Brooke Bond's tea and packaged food interests to a bigger involvement in coffee, cereals and other staples. Tate envisages a new corporation embracing all stages of food production. Its assets and profit sources would be more diverse; it would not depend on any single commodity cycle; and it would enjoy greater bargaining power with the retailers who have taken full advantage of their marketing power and weak commodity prices to compress suppliers' margins.

A measure of the scale of this ambition is that Brooke Bond is more or less the same size as Tate. But the vision is born of the confidence which Tate's management has inspired in both itself and in shareholders over the past few years. Pretax profits have been revitalized from £24.6m in 1978 to £57.3m last year and more than £70m is widely forecast for 1984.

Tate has sold burdensome properties, radically streamlined its management, and purged the debt which once threatened to drag the company under.

By contrast, Brooke Bond has not been a notable performer. Over the last five years pretax profits have crept up from £41m to £48.2m. It is true that even at this early stage in the battle Brooke Bond is hinting that profits for 1984 will be comfortably more than £70m. But the City view is that the good figures owe much more to exceptionally high tea prices and to the long delayed return to profitability of Mallinson-Denny, the timber company, than to a sea change in Brooke Bond's long-term fortunes.

When Tate's formal offer document is published in a fortnight or so it is likely to play on the twin themes of Tate's management performance and the quality of Brooke Bond's earnings.

Tate will try to tempt Brooke Bond shareholders with a less cyclical company, with lower gearing and more fully valued assets. It will question the true price to be put on the plantations and clearly wants to sell Mallinson-Denny as soon as is decently possible.

But Brooke Bond shows no sign of coming quietly. Its current share price gives nothing away to Tate's offer of 98p a share, suggesting that a higher offer will be needed quickly. Brooke Bond, moreover, will depict Tate as a company which has squeezed the very most from its assets and is desperate for growth. The galvanizing effect on Brooke Bond's management will be wondrous to behold.

Nevertheless, now that Tate has shown its hand the game will be decided not by Tate's ability to pay but by its willingness to pay the final price. A clean balance sheet and the ability to issue quite a lot of paper before serious dilution of earnings sets in will reassure the institutions, who in any case have been impressed by Tate's renaissance. By the same token, Brooke Bond's institutional shareholders might welcome a change. Tate must be praying that a third party does not force the price up so far as to spoil the fun.

Greenwell urges benign neglect

Gilt-edged markets returned to normal yesterday after United States bonds shrugged off the alarms over revision of the United States growth figures. The Government broker even managed to sell out a long top issue, possibly in exchange for jobbers' excess stocks of shorter dates.

But the argument over the future of short-term interest rates and inflation, which could determine market behaviour through the autumn, is only just being engaged in earnest.

The latest monetary review from W Greenwell, the stockbroker, points out the apparent conflict of evidence between the narrow money figures, which are all right, and the wider measures which are way over the top - and unlikely to be reined back by fierce interest rate competition in the savings market.

Greenwell thinks the Chancellor should place greater weight in the coming months on the narrower measures, for fear that in the absence of a big budget deficit here, further rises in interest rates in the train of the Americans, could bring a risk that "the economic recovery in Britain will collapse".

That leads Greenwell to argue that "the British authorities should adopt a foreign exchange policy of benign neglect" rather than follow United States interest rates up.

Unfortunately, it was just such a declaration of policy by the Bank of England that set off the July run on sterling and the 2.75 per cent rise in base rates as the markets saw the authorities ignoring the boost to inflation from devaluation. Curbing inflation is, after all, the main justification for domestic money policy.

In any case, it is far from clear that Mr. the only aggregate that has behaved well recently, means very much. The wider aggregates are a more obvious signal of credit pressure.

Retirement takes a back seat

After the City revolution, some say comes the retirement party: when all the "old guard" stockbroker and jobber members take cash out of their partnerships. That cash will have been provided by big battalions buying their way into the Stock Exchange.

It is a problem being tackled by the membership committee of the Stock Exchange, as it draws up new membership rules which would cover American and Japanese involvement in the London market.

But the committee must take heart from the detail of the latest deal between Hoare Govett and the huge US group, Security Pacific. While raising additional capital of £50m if needed, Hoare has retained majority voting control and a 70-30 boardroom ratio for the next five years, and 10 per cent of the equity.

But Hoare's directors - it is a limited corporate member of the exchange rather than a partnership - are not taking the money and running. All are staying on past the time when "Sec Pac" can increase its stake from 29.9 per cent to between 80 and 90 per cent.

The group has also improved its share options for executives. It says it can pay the salaries and incentives that will be needed to staff both the "Market Maker" in equities and "Primary Dealer" in government stocks, for which it will make application.

US 'to nationalize Continental Illinois in \$4.5bn rescue'

From Bailey Morris, Washington

American banking authorities are putting the finishing touches to an unprecedented programme - to nationalize the troubled Continental Illinois National Bank with \$4.5 billion (£3.4 billion) rescue package, the largest in US history.

Banking sources said a preliminary agreement was worked out after a series of weekend negotiations at which federal authorities were forced to admit that their two-month search for a merger partner for Continental had been fruitless.

Both banking authorities and Continental refused yesterday to confirm the agreement, but officials of several big US banks said they had been told to expect an announcement before the end of the week.

According to these sources, the US Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation will assume unprecedented control over America's eighth-largest bank, which would effectively be split into two banks. In addition, the FDIC is said to

have selected a chairman for the bank. This is rumoured to be Mr James Bert, chairman of the Borg Warner Corporation and a member of Continental's board.

The rescue programme, which had been rumoured for weeks in the face of continuing loss of deposits from the Chicago Bank, will have a dramatic impact on US banking policy for years to come. It could run into strong opposition in Congress.

As broadly outlined yesterday, the rescue programme contained these main ingredients:

● The FDIC, with a loan from the US Federal Reserve system, would buy up to \$3.5 billion in bad loans from Continental Illinois at a discounted price of \$3.5 billion.

● In addition, the FDIC would agree to purchase up to \$1.5 billion in other problem loans at book value over the next three years.

● A new slimmed-down Continental bank would be created and capitalized by the FDIC which would purchase for an estimated \$1 billion two series of preferred stock, one of which could be converted into 80 per cent of common shares if sold to a third party.

● Existing Continental shareholders would be allowed to purchase Continental shares at set prices over a two-year period.

France tightens control on banks

The French Government's control of local banks is considerably strengthened by banking laws, which come into force today covering both French and foreign-controlled banks. Catherine Dods writes from Paris.

Not as drastic and far-reaching as the government's nationalization of 36 French banks in February 1982 - and therefore treated with a certain amount of calm by France's banking community - the new law nevertheless makes every banking establishment in the country into an all-purpose, universal type bank, by putting all into a single category called "credit establishment".

All credit establishments so under the authority and control of four new bodies.

M Jacques Delors, the outgoing Finance Minister and father of the new law intended that the scope and multiplicity of business of local banks should be almost without limit.

Henlys near deal in bid battle

By Jonathan Clare

Henlys, the motor distributor, is close to a sale of part of its leasing business to improve its balance sheet for the fight against the unwanted £16.8m bid from Midex.

The loss-making motor group believes it can find a finance house buyer from among a number of potential suitors which would finance the leasing business in exchange for a share of the profits. Hill Samuel, Henlys' merchant bank advisers, say such a deal would decrease the company's gearing but would not dilute profits.

A deal could be structured to give Henlys a substantial share in a new leasing company, with a finance house holding the balance. The Bank of Scotland, which has nearly a 30 per cent stake in Henlys, would be an obvious candidate: a subsidiary already finances much of Henlys' consumer credit sales.

Mr John Dowling, Henlys' chairman, yesterday said that before the bid there had been indications that a third party was interested in acquiring Midex's 29.9 per cent stake in Henlys. Midex is the Canadian-quoted investment company of Mr Michael Ashcroft and Mr David Wickens.

Mr Dowling said: "I had people indicating there were ways of taking over the Ashcroft stake." Midex says that no offer or contact of any sort was made.

Mr Dowling and the Henlys board also formally rejected the Midex bid yesterday.

Henlys shares rose 1p to 125p in expectation of either a counter-bid (which Midex would probably accept) or improved terms from Midex.

Thornton handshake could be £300,000

By Philip Robinson

Mr Clive Thornton, deposed chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers, could get a golden handshake worth £300,000. This is the maximum he could command under his contract with his employer, Reed International.

Sir Alex Jarratt, chairman of Reed International, told shareholders yesterday that Mr Thornton's resignation was regarded by Reed as "purely technical". Mr Thornton resigned after the takeover of the six-title Mirror group newspapers by Mr Robert Maxwell, the millionaire publisher.

Sir Alex told shareholders who demanded that Mr Thornton be paid off with £3,000 or £6,000: "I must say that if I went into my office and found someone sitting at my desk at 8.30 in the morning after a deal had been signed, I reckon that says to me I'm not really wanted."

Sir Alex praised Mr Thornton for his "tremendous effort and commitment" in the six months that he was Mirror chairman. He said it was no fault of Mr Thornton's that the Mirror Group was sold to one buyer and that discussions were taking place on how Mr Thornton's five-year contract at



Clive Thornton: a purely technical resignation

£55,000 a year could be dealt with.

Reed's decision to sell Mirror Group Newspapers was harshly criticized by union officials, and Reed shareholders of the two Scottish newspapers, the *Daily Record* and *Sunday Mail*.

Sir Alex said that the offer by Mr Maxwell's Pergamon Press of £90m after repayment of company debt "was almost twice that which could have been raised through an offer for sale in present market conditions and the board therefore decided to accept Pergamon's offer."

Law may stop Air Florida take-off

The agreement between Eastern Airlines and Air Florida that the former is to purchase the latter's London - Miami route and its landing rights in Washington and New York may run into legal problems. Our correspondent writes from New York.

Although Eastern will pay \$7m for the London route and

for 16 departure and arrival slots at Washington National airport the sale of slots is prohibited by the Federal Aviation Administration - although the FAA is considering allowing such transactions.

One observer explained: "Such deals are similar to dealing in stock options". But

as Air Florida is no longer flying, it is questionable whether the airline could claim the slots are its to sell.

Additionally, the FAA has held slots for bankrupt carriers (which Air Florida is now, as it has filed for bankruptcy and laid off its 1,200 workers) before signing them to other airlines.

Rebel shareholders fail to block Jaguar sell-off

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

A tiny but vocal band of BL's last remaining private shareholders yesterday failed in an attempt to block the sale of Jaguar, the next big name on the Government's privatization list.

At an extraordinary general meeting at the Cafe Royal, in London, the dissenting minority shareholders achieved a brief Pyrrhic victory when they succeeded on a show of hands in voting down BL's plan to float Jaguar on the stock market.

The vote was promptly reversed, however, when Sir Austin Bide, BL's chairman, called the shareholders' poll, including proxy votes. This showed that, even without taking account of the Government's overwhelming 99.7 per cent majority stake in BL, most minority shareholders were in

favour of the Jaguar sell-off. The poll was decided by more than a million votes to 172,000, making it unnecessary for the Government to vote its 4,200 million shares.

About a dozen shareholders spoke against the Jaguar sale, arguing that it was badly timed and made no business sense. According to Mr Noel Falconer, it was akin to "sawing off your arm to have a good lunch". A number of shareholders wanted to know why they were not being offered free or cut-price shares in the flotation.

Sir Austin solidly repeated BL's argument that the proceeds from the flotation - which are likely to top £300m, according to City estimates - would help to reduce BL's borrowings and free new funds for investment in other parts of the group.

Italian bank takeover

San Paolo Bank of Turin, Italy's fastest-expanding bank, has bought control of the Banca Provinciale Lombarda from

Italmobiliare, holding company of the financier and cement magnate, Signor Carlo Pesenti, for a price reported to be about £200m.

New look with hologram to beat fraud

3-D security for cheque cards

By Vivian Goldsmith

Cheque guarantee cards are to carry a tiny hologram as part of a new design aimed at making them less vulnerable to fraud.

The new cards will be sent to cardholders as their existing cards expire from October - in the meantime the old cards will be valid.

The 16m new cards have a hologram of a triangular symbol, the words "bank card" repeated, and "£50" superimposed on each other, which shows up in bright light.

That is only one of several security features. The signature strip is made of paper and is much more difficult to tamper with than the old plastic strip. And there is an embossed, densely printed squares and banknote-style delicate variable

colour printing to deter forgers. The new cards will cost 31p or 32p against 56p for the old cards. "We are looking for a substantial reduction in fraud," said Mr David Bonner, chairman of the Bank Cheque Card Committee, "it should be more than enough to cover the extra cost".

In 1983 frauds involving cheque cards cost the banks £21m. When the cheque guarantee limit was raised from £30 to £50 in 1977 fraud doubled from £2.1m to £4.2m.

Mr Bonner said there was no plan to increase the limit again, in spite of confidence in the security of the new card. But the banks may ease the restriction by allowing two cheques up to

£50 each per transaction, which would not increase the value of a stolen cheque book to a criminal.

The new card, which will be used by 20 banks, has been developed with advice from the police and leading retailers. Training packs are being sent out to shops to prepare them for the launch.

Barclaycard, which produces a credit card and a cheque guarantee card for Barclays Bank cheques, introduced a new card incorporating a hologram this month.

The 7-million Barclaycards carry a three-dimensional image of a dove fluttering its wings. The design came from Visa in

California. Mr Seymour Fortescue, Barclaycard's divisional general manager, said: "We wondered whether we could have a Barclaycard eagle cohabiting with a Visa dove - only the Gold card shown both birds".

The new Barclaycard will be phased in over two years and costs about 12p to produce rather than 6p for the old cards. It includes fine line printing and an ultra violet device as well as the hologram.

The hologram for both the cards is made in America by the American Banknote Corporation, neither organization could find a manufacturer to do the printing in Britain.

Index rises 8.2 points

A general easing of the dollar on foreign exchange markets lead to a small recovery for both stocks and shares on the London Stock Exchange yesterday as well as in Tokyo and Hongkong. The FT 30-share index rose 8.2 to 763.5 after Monday's 20.9 point fall.

Dollar profit-taking started in New York overnight as bond markets failed to react to the uprated growth figures as much as Europe and the Far East had done. It accelerated through yesterday as the US Commerce Department revealed a surprise 3.2 per cent cut in orders for durable goods last month when consumer prices rose 0.2 per cent for a 4.2 per cent 12 month rise.

The pound gained 55 points to £1.3230 and the dollar fell more sharply against the Deutschmark down from 2.8760 to DM 2.8660.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 763.5 up 2.7 (high 991.1, low 983.4)
FT Index: 763.5 up 8.2
FT 30 Index: 763.5 up 8.2
Burgundy: 17.220
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 53.88 down 0.54
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1093.08 down 3.59
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 9,738.96 up 35.61
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 754.75 up 7.73
Amsterdam: 148.8 down 0.2
Sydney: AG Index 571.5 down 3.6
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index: 926.2 up 4.2
Brussels: General Index 141.94 unchanged
Paris: CAC Index 159.6 up 0.3
Zurich: SKA General Index 292.30 down 0.80

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling £1.3230 up 55pts
Index 79.0 up 0.1
DM 3.80 up 0.0050
Yen 11.8575 up 0.0275
Fr 225.75 up 0.50
Dollar Index 137.5 down 0.4
DM 2.8690 down 0.0045
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.3210
Dollar DM 2.8732
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 20.58948
SDR 20.770060

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 12
Finance houses base rate 8 1/2
Discount market loans week fixed 12
3 month interbank 12 1/2 - 12 3/4
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 12 - 11 1/4
3 month DM 5 1/2 - 5 3/4
3 month Fr 12 1/4 - 12
US rates:
Bank prime rate 13
Fed funds 11 1/4
Treasury long bond 9 1/2 - 9 3/4
ECG Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period June 6 to July 3 1984, inclusive: 9.488 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$377.75 pm \$338.50
close \$339.00 - \$339.50 (£256 - 256.50)
New York (latest): \$338.75
Kruggerand (per 100g): \$349.50 - \$351 (£264 - 265)

NOW EVEN MORE REASON TO BE WITH THE WOOLWICH

New interest rates from 1st August

90 DAY ACCOUNTS	28 DAY ACCOUNTS	7 DAY ACCOUNTS
Our top rate account, with an effective annual rate of 9.46% net when interest is added to the account half-yearly. Withdrawals at 90 days' notice or immediately with loss of 90 days' interest. Minimum investment: £500.	1.25% above Share rate, withdrawals at 28 days' notice or immediately with loss of 28 days' interest. Monthly Income Shares pay the same rate, with withdrawals at only 28 days' notice. Minimum investment: £500.	1% above Share rate, withdrawals at only 7 days' notice with no penalties. Minimum investment: £500.
9.25% net p.a. =13.21% Gross equivalent for basic rate taxpayers	9.00% net p.a. =12.86% Gross equivalent for basic rate taxpayers	8.75% net p.a. =12.50% Gross equivalent for basic rate taxpayers
SHARE ACCOUNTS	THE WOOLWICH MORTGAGE RATE	
Invest or withdraw whenever you like at any Woolwich branch. All you need is £1 to start.	Specified rate for repayment mortgages	
7.75% net p.a. =11.07% Gross equivalent for basic rate taxpayers	12.75%	8.925% Net rate payable on eligible loans with mortgage interest tax relief at 30%

The rate of interest on all Flexible Term Shares, Investment Certificates, Monthly Income Term Shares, Premium Interest Shares, Savings Plan Accounts and Guaranteed Bonus Shares will also be increased by 1.5% on 1st August.

The new rates of interest at the Woolwich give savers and investors an excellent choice. On our 7 Day, 28 Day and 90 Day accounts, penalty-free immediate withdrawals can be made provided £10,000 or more remains in the account.

And with maximum investments of up to £30,000 (£60,000 for joint accounts) still open to anyone, even a Deposit Account looks good with its interest rate of 7.50% worth 10.71% gross to basic rate taxpayers.

For borrowers, there are no differential rates - the Woolwich Mortgage Rate applies however large your mortgage.

Mortgages: the specified rate of interest charged on new repayment mortgages will be increased to 12.75% forthwith. An additional 0.5% is charged for new endowment mortgages. The specified rate of interest charged on existing repayment mortgages will be increased to 12.75% on 1st August 1984 or 1st September 1984 or 1st November 1984 in accordance with the terms of the mortgage contracts. Details of the revised monthly payments will be sent to endowment mortgage borrowers in the course of the next few days.

Borrowers who were with the New Cross or the London Grosvenor building societies will be advised individually how the rate change will affect them.

If you're really with it - you're with the Woolwich

W
WOOLWICH
EQUITABLE BUILDING SOCIETY

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page.

If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Market rallies

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, July 16. Dealings End, July 27. 5 Contango Day, July 30. Settlement Day, Aug 6. 5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES

Portfolio

TODAY'S DIVIDEND PRIZE

£2,000

Claims required for +28 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

No.	Company	Price	Change	Yld %	P/E
1	Electricals	100	0	10	10
2	Food	100	0	10	10
3	ICI	100	0	10	10
4	Shell	100	0	10	10
5	British	100	0	10	10
6	Bank	100	0	10	10
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British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10

Company	Price	Change	Yld %	P/E
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10

Company	Price	Change	Yld %	P/E
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10

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British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10

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British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10

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British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10

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British	100	0	10	10
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British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	10
British	100	0	10	

Kennedy Brookes bids for London Pavilion

By Derek Pain and Michael Clark

Kennedy Brookes, the Mario and Franco and Wheeler's restaurant chain, is making a bid approaching £2.7 million for the London Pavilion, the company controlling the famous Piccadilly cinema site.

The deal is certain to go through. The Kennedy offer has already been accepted by LP directors and other shareholders collectively representing 51 per cent of the shares.

LP shareholders are being offered about £20.75 on a share exchange basis or £18 cash. Last dealings in the shares were at £17.75p.

Kennedy has, it seems, been impressed by the trading at its Trocadero development, just along the road from the Pavilion since it opened last month as a catering complex.

It clearly feels that the Pavilion site, being developed for about 18m on a 150 year Greater London Council lease, lends itself to similar treatment as the Trocadero.

Kennedy, which is due to announce its interim results next week, has been built up in spectacular style by Mr Michael Golden, chairman, and Mr Roy Ackerman, Mr Ackerman said last night: "The Pavilion must be the best entertainment site in the empire".

Other parts of Piccadilly were already being developed and the Pavilion site was "the last part of the jigsaw to fall into place". Kennedy operates the Trocadero through a 51 per cent owned company, Lenoxcourt. It intends to retain the LP share quote.

Episcure Holdings, the construction group headed by Mr Reginald Brealey, at one time had almost 30 per cent of LP's shares. But it has sold some to Kennedy and now has about 25 per cent.

Shares generally recaptured a little of Monday's lost lurch with the FT 100 share index up 8.7 points at 763.3 points. The FT-SE 100 share index was up a mere 2.7 points at 989.6 points.

Government stocks recorded gains of up to 2½ and some gold mines made progress. However, traded in its slimline form (with the American side stripped out) rose 5p to 145p. Despite fears that Thorn-EMI's controversial £136m

rights issue has flopped, the shares were unchanged at 401p. Best, the packaging and paper group, was unchanged at 240p after Wood Mackenzie, the broker, had declared itself a fan of the shares.

Analyst Mr Peter Large, is going for interim profits of more than £11.5m (£7.5m) and £17.5m.

Despite the uncertain stock market conditions Blue Arrow, the employment to travel business, seems likely to score an opening price of up to 90p (against a 75p placing level when USM dealings start on Monday. Bankers is Lloyds Bank International with Phillips and Drew acting as broker to the issue. Blue Arrow, headed by Mr Tony Berry, a former Breng director, expects current year profits of £365,000, putting shares on a prospective 9.9 times earnings at the placing level.

A year's out-turn of £24.5m (£17.6m).

In the first half year the group has scored particularly from its American packaging side, aided and abetted by the strong US dollar, and its international merchandising operations.

Wood Mackenzie believes the shares are selling at 11 times prospective earnings.

Emray, the garage and leasing group, held at 19p as the row between the board, headed by Mr Lionel Altman, and the "rebel" shareholders heated up. Mr Alan Gale, the managing director of

Is Murray Gordon's Combined English Stores about to fulfil long-awaited expectations? The shares were 35p a year ago, touched 80p at the end of last March and were yesterday up a penny at 67p. Increased contributions from its West German shops, English handbags and jewelry businesses, are persuading some analysts that profits will virtually double to £8m this year.

Mr Michael Carlton's Taddale Investments, is the latest to seek election to the Emray board. Already Messrs Murdoch Morrison, Ben Anderson and Edward Denison, have put in their claims for directorships.

TEMPUS

A slow resurrection for John Brown

In the late seventies John Brown began to dig its own grave. In the early eighties it jumped into it and up until a year ago lay there moribund. By then the Patersons among John Brown's bankers and investors were wearing a little thin. A new chairman was appointed and the statutory rescue package, or corporate plan as it is grandly known, was implemented.

Twelve months on and there are indications that the plan is beginning to work and that recovery is more than a figment of the imagination. One thing is certain, however, the recovery will take a lot longer than some people in the City had hoped.

Yesterday's pre-tax loss of £5.6m is an improvement on last year's £8.6m deficit, but it is still a big loss. The position is made worse when the £36.8m extraordinary cost of implementing the corporate plan is taken into account.

This has had a devastating impact on revenue reserves and there is now a £33.6m deficit on the profit and loss account. The company is confident, however, that the bulk of the corporate plan implementation costs are now behind it, allowing the management the freedom to put its rationalisation plans into practice.

So far about one third of the programme has been completed and if all goes according to plan it should be substantially completed in a year.

The sale of the US machine tool subsidiary, Olinson, should be completed later this year to realise about \$25m (£19m) and John Brown is still confident of finding a suitable partner for its power engineering operations.

These are the two large hurdles which the company must clear in its attempt to slim down and concentrate on plastics machinery and engineering and construction. Other smaller subsidiaries might also be sold if the right opportunity arises but John Brown is under no real pressure to have a wholesale clear-out.

The company is fortunate that its bankers have been very sympathetic to the cause. However, they will still be keen to see borrowings reduced further.

Net borrowings of £109m at

Economic commentary by Tim Congdon

Dangerous time for this fashion of deregulation

Balance sheet strain in the American financial system

Rise in year to December 1983 at 15 largest US Banks of:

Assets 3.6%
Capital 10.4%
Loan provisions 22.1%
Non-performing loans 23.5%
Net loan losses 39.5%

the capital/asset ratio of the 34 biggest American, Canadian, British and Japanese banks, which between them account for about 45 per cent of the assets held by the world's top 100 banks, rose fractionally from 3.63 per cent to 3.73 per cent last year, but remained mostly beneath the 1970 levels of more than 5 per cent.

The dangers seem to be greatest in the United States where deregulation has been most rapid and banks' capital adequacy is under particular strain. The moves to liberalise financial intermediation have coincided with a vigorous upturn in economic activity and fast expansion of all forms of credit.

The normal cyclical pattern is for growth in business borrowing to level off 15 months after the end of recession. But today, 18 months into the recovery, corporate loan demand has risen at a 25 per cent annual rate since February, compared with 10 per cent between June, 1983 and January, 1984.

This has obviously led to a sharp expansion of bank assets. The Bank's analysts demonstrate that vulnerability to bad risks is increasing. It shows that last year non-performing loans and net loan losses went up by more than capital or loan provisions at the largest 15 banks, and suggest that "this is equally true so far this year for at least some of them".

In addition warning signs have started to come from the property market, a reliable barometer of the financial climate. One of the principal deregulation measures has been to permit savings and loan associations, known shortly as S&Ls, the American equivalent of building societies, to reduce their reliance on home mortgages and shift into new kinds of lending.

As a result irresponsible entrepreneurs have bought S&Ls, many of which had been bankrupted by the move to higher interest rates, at knock-down prices and then used the deposits for investment in office buildings, holiday resorts or even their own companies. Not surprisingly, the regulatory agencies have been disturbed by

Some figures in the June issue of *The Banker* illustrate the problem. They show that

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these developments. In recent months several S&Ls have been required to stop expanding their assets and set about strengthening their capital reserves.

The regulatory response is an expression of alarm at the widening gap between the rate of credit growth in the US economy and the rate of growth of the capital on which that credit is based. This deterioration in balance sheet strength and financial deregulation have occurred simultaneously. Many observers will therefore argue, rightly or wrongly, that deregulation has aggravated balance sheet strain.

The final twist is that real interest rates are at exceptionally high levels. The dangers of deregulation are increased by unsatisfactory capital/asset ratios in the financial system; they are compounded by high real interest rates. The more expensive it is to take loans, the more likely are overborrowed companies or countries to become insolvent and fail to honour their commitments to the banks.

The plight of the Latin American nations is the most vivid illustration of this point. As the dollar prices of the commodities they export have fallen heavily in recent months, they are now effectively paying real interest rates of more than 20 per cent. In such circumstances it is fantasy to imagine that they can meet their debt obligations.

This article should not be misunderstood. Its purpose is not to forecast the end of civilization or even of international banking. Instead it is to suggest that financial deregulation in the United States will eventually be perceived as a failure because it has coincided with a period of over-ambitious banking and undue credit growth.

Sooner or later the excesses will oblige the Federal Reserve and the regulatory agencies to reimpose controls. Even if they need not do so for the whole system, a large number of institutions will be affected. Continental Illinois has already been described as the United States' "first big nationalized bank". But the trouble has been in small banks and S&Ls, many of which have been under de facto public supervision for some time.

As he gives evidence to the Senate Banking Committee this week, Mr Paul Volcker, the Fed's chairman, must be well aware of the problems now confronting the American financial system. He must also know that one solution would be an engineered cut in interest rates plus some deliberate inflation. Heavy debtors and bad bankers are not natural allies, but they are at one and together on the beneficence of inflation.

But Mr Volcker has shown no sign that he wants to let the banks and S&Ls escape so lightly. He may feel that a few exemplary busts are needed to ensure that in future, credit decisions are taken more carefully. If so, the experience of deregulation in the United States is unlikely to be an encouragement to governments in other countries now proceeding on the same course. This is a pity because well-conducted financial liberalizations could make a big contribution to the efficiency of market economies.

The author is economics partner at stockbrokers L. Messel & Co.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank 12%
Adam & Company 12%
Barclays 12%
BCCI 12%
Citibank Savings 12%
Consolidated Crds 12%
Continental Trust 12%
C. Hoare & Co 12%
Lloyds Bank 12%
Midland Bank 12%
Nat Westminster 12%
TSB 12%
Williams & Glyn's 12%
Citibank NA 12%

* 7 day deposit on sums of under £10,000, 9% £10,000 up to £50,000, 9½% £50,000 and over, 10%.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

City	Rate	City	Rate
New York	1.5730-1.5735	London	1.5730-1.5735
Frankfurt	1.5730-1.5735	Paris	1.5730-1.5735
Geneva	1.5730-1.5735	Basel	1.5730-1.5735
Zurich	1.5730-1.5735	Brussels	1.5730-1.5735
Amsterdam	1.5730-1.5735	Antwerp	1.5730-1.5735
Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735	Copenhagen	1.5730-1.5735
Oslo	1.5730-1.5735	Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735
Gothenburg	1.5730-1.5735	Oslo	1.5730-1.5735
Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735	Oslo	1.5730-1.5735
Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735	Oslo	1.5730-1.5735
Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735	Oslo	1.5730-1.5735

Effective exchange rate compared with 1975 was up 1.1 at 73.4.

EURO-DEPOSITS

(%) call, 13.3-13.4; seven days, 13.1-13.2; one month, 12.9-13.0; three months, 12.7-12.8; six months, 12.6-12.7.

The dollar suffered a brief setback on foreign exchanges after statistics revealing that durable sales orders in the US had fallen by an unexpected 3.2 per cent during June.

However after some predictable profit-taking there was soon a return of buyers. Dealers said few operations were anxious to go short of dollars ahead of today's Senate testimony from Mr Paul Volcker, the chairman of the Federal Reserve.

Sterling, bolstered by current high British money rates, made useful headway. At the close the pound showed a gain of 55 points against the dollar at 1.3230 while in Deutschmark terms it moved up to 3.7990 from overnight.

The Swiss franc also retreated in the wake of a rise of between 0.25 and 0.5 points in Swiss time deposit rates. It ended at 2.3270 (3.2150).

The Bundesbank supported the Deutschmark during the earlier part of the session. After early pressure, a recovery ensued, leaving the rate on dollar terms higher at 2.8690 (2.8735).

There were gains on balance for the French franc 3.7975 (3.8225), and for the yen at 246.05 (246.85).

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

City	Rate	City	Rate
New York	1.5730-1.5735	London	1.5730-1.5735
Frankfurt	1.5730-1.5735	Paris	1.5730-1.5735
Geneva	1.5730-1.5735	Basel	1.5730-1.5735
Zurich	1.5730-1.5735	Brussels	1.5730-1.5735
Amsterdam	1.5730-1.5735	Antwerp	1.5730-1.5735
Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735	Copenhagen	1.5730-1.5735
Oslo	1.5730-1.5735	Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735
Gothenburg	1.5730-1.5735	Oslo	1.5730-1.5735
Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735	Oslo	1.5730-1.5735
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COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

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New York	1.5730-1.5735	London	1.5730-1.5735
Frankfurt	1.5730-1.5735	Paris	1.5730-1.5735
Geneva	1.5730-1.5735	Basel	1.5730-1.5735
Zurich	1.5730-1.5735	Brussels	1.5730-1.5735
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Gothenburg	1.5730-1.5735	Oslo	1.5730-1.5735
Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735	Oslo	1.5730-1.5735
Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735	Oslo	1.5730-1.5735
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APPOINTMENTS

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

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Frankfurt	1.5730-1.5735	Paris	1.5730-1.5735
Geneva	1.5730-1.5735	Basel	1.5730-1.5735
Zurich	1.5730-1.5735	Brussels	1.5730-1.5735
Amsterdam	1.5730-1.5735	Antwerp	1.5730-1.5735
Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735	Copenhagen	1.5730-1.5735
Oslo	1.5730-1.5735	Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735
Gothenburg	1.5730-1.5735	Oslo	1.5730-1.5735
Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735	Oslo	1.5730-1.5735
Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735	Oslo	1.5730-1.5735
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WALL STREET

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

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New York	1.5730-1.5735	London	1.5730-1.5735
Frankfurt	1.5730-1.5735	Paris	1.5730-1.5735
Geneva	1.5730-1.5735	Basel	1.5730-1.5735
Zurich	1.5730-1.5735	Brussels	1.5730-1.5735
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Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735	Copenhagen	1.5730-1.5735
Oslo	1.5730-1.5735	Stockholm	1.5730-1.5735

Turnberry sun is beaming on British

By John Hennessey

The PGA Cup, sponsored by Bell's Scotch Whisky, is one area of golf where the British Isles have more than held their own against the United States in recent years. The Ryder Cup, Walker Cup and Curtis Cup have all given encouraging evidence of more balanced competition but the club professionals, for whom the PGA Cup was inaugurated in 1973, have had rather the better of it and probably start favourites for the match to be played over Turnberry's Ailsa course from today until Friday.

The series opened with four successive American victories, but they have won only twice since 1980 and 1982. The British Isles have meanwhile registered three successes, all at home, and two, in the United States. Last year, at Muirfield, they won by the comfortable margin of 14.5 points to 6.5.

American club professionals, unlike their widely travelled counterparts on tour, are always at a disadvantage on links courses and Turnberry this summer is showing signs of distress in parched conditions. A beaming sun in a powder-blue sky and a heat haze hiding the ruggedness of Ailsa Craig, coupled with favourable weather forecasts, offer small hope of immediate relief.

The British team, moreover, looks exceptionally strong, an experience and performance, spearheaded by Denis Durnan, if he is remembered principally for his open championship record of 29 for the first nine at Royal Birkdale last year, he played well enough again at St Andrews last week to suggest he is again in prime form. David Hush, one of the Open after two rounds and David Ingram the French Open at the same stage. Peter Butler, with four Ryder Cups, must be the most distinguished player on either side.

The American club professional champion, a man of considerable achievement that carries him into the hierarchy of the World Series later in the summer. Little known as they are, the Americans have impressive competitive records. Don Padgett and Tim Collins, are making their fourth appearance in this competition.

Bob Wynn has been denied this privilege, but two appearances in the Masters and two victories on the American tour, provide ample compensation. The last place in the American one-man team went to Terry Florence after a play-off in their championship.

They are the strikers of a golf ball but Turnberry will provide a severe, then test. Three foursomes and three four-balls are to be played today and tomorrow, followed by nine singles on Friday.

© TOKYO (Reuters) - A New international tournament, known as the World Golf Championship, will be played here in October. Twenty-seven leading players from nine countries are expected to compete for the \$2.2 million prize.

Britain are sending the strongest gymnastics team yet to the Olympic Games and should produce their best scores when the competition starts on Sunday. Thirty-six gymnasts will qualify for the individual overall finals. In these articles PETER AYKROYD assesses the chances of Andrew Morris and Hayley Price, two national champions.

In the absence of the Soviet Union, the Romanians are favourites for the women's team gold medal, while on the men's side, the Chinese are expected to win easily.

The leading contenders for the women's individual title is Ekaterina Szabo of Romania, and the men's crown will probably fall to Li Ning or Tong Fei of China.

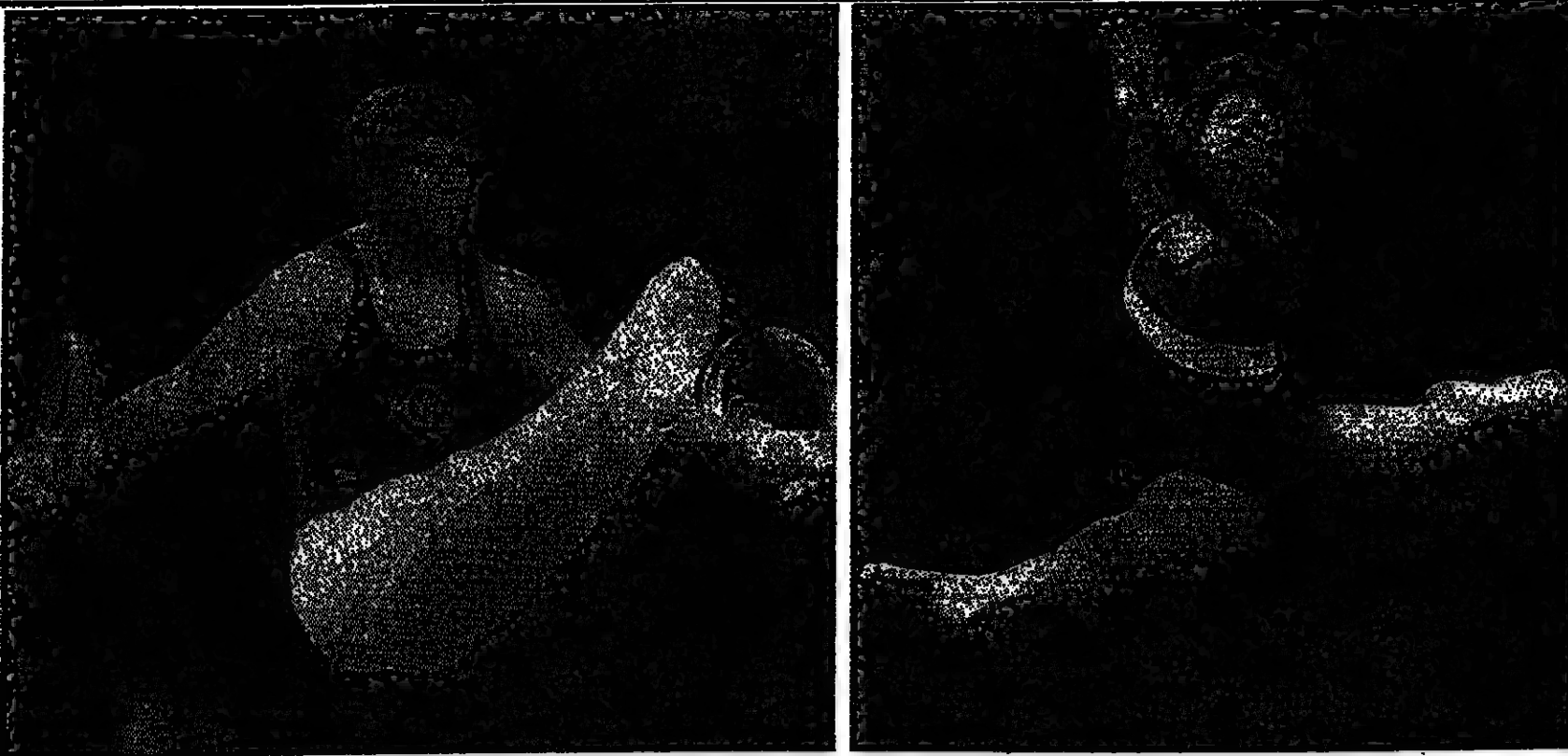
Man who put his fears of flying high behind him

One of the immediate effects of the Soviet and Eastern block boycott of the Olympic Games was the upgrading of Britain from its previous world ranking of 17 to the elite top 12 gymnastics nations at Los Angeles. This new status has allowed Britain to send a full Olympic team of six men to the Games instead of the original two.

Two or six, one gymnast has always been virtually certain to compete. He is Andrew Morris, at 27 the current national champion and the best British prospect for an Olympic medal in 20 years.

Morris comes from Swansea, a famous cradle of successful gymnasts, and his slight but powerful body together with his dark hair and eyes portray his Celtic origins. His promise emerged last year when he was placed fourth in the European championships. Only one other Briton has finished higher in this event; the legendary Nik Stuart who achieved fifth place in 1959. Morris went on to score 113.90 at the world championships in Budapest, similarly the best ever total reached by a British performer.

A modest man who enjoys gymnastics for the challenge and variety of skills needed, Morris has a physique with an ideal strength-to-weight ratio, a key advantage in competition.



Arms and the girl: Britain's Olympic hopes, Andrew Morris and Hayley Price going through their routines on wings of confidence

He has other outstanding qualities, too - elegance, concentration, consistency and self-control - which have brought him to prominence over a comparatively short period. Yet his career almost never began. He was spotted at school at the late age - for a gymnast - of 13 as having considerable potential; but was then nearly rejected by the PE master who discovered him. 11-times Welsh champion Leigh Jones, the gymnastic star of a recent television commercial extolling a deodorant, approved of the build and strength demonstrated by the youngster but discovered that he lacked spatial awareness - the ability to relate the position of his body to the ground once he was airborne. As Morris puts it: "I was scared silly of tackling new moves."

Faultless displays

However, Jones persevered and made his protégé spend long hours at the renowned Swansea YMCA club on a trampoline, somersaulting and twisting his body high above the floor. The strategy worked, and by 1979 Morris was British youth champion and, from the following year, a regular member of the British international team. In the meantime, Jones

founded the City of Swansea Gymnastics Club in a disused church. From here, Morris made his successful assault on the British title last year when he defeated two former champions, Keith Langley and Barry Winch - decisively by establishing a commanding lead after faultless displays on the floor, pommel horse and rings.

This year, he has maintained his impressive form by retaining the Champions Cup, taking eleventh place in the prestigious Moscow News competition, and capturing the silver medal against formidable international opposition at the Daily Mirror Championships All tournament at Wembley.

Morris's preparation for Los Angeles involves him in some 25 hours a week of body conditioning and perfecting routines on the six pieces of apparatus. To gain time, he works as a part-time administrator at Swansea Leisure Centre.

How will Morris fare in the Olympics? He stands an excellent chance of joining the top 36 competitors from the opening team competition who qualify for the individual overall finals. He is now also within striking distance of an apparatus medal and this could be for the rings or pommel horse on which he is particularly talented.

The tradition that champions emerge from a background of adverse training facilities dies hard in the case of Hayley Price, at 18 the national champion and leader of the British women's Olympic team. Miss Price is the product - and so is, indeed, her British team colleague Sally Larner - of a club based in a one-storey school house built in 1837, a draughty, spartan place lacking in aids such as foam-filled training pits. Yet the Redditch and Bromsgrove gymnastics club, under its chief coach John Reeves, provides just the right environment for the continual drive for perfection and success which attracted Miss Price to the sport in the first place.

Besides possessing such qualities essential to a gymnast as tenacity, daring and balance, Miss Price is slender, elegant and graceful. Last year, her figure and suppleness so captivated Lord Snowdon that he invited her to be photographed for his book, *Sittings*.

Rare distinction

She also has a high degree of determination, marked by an unassuming personality, which has taken her to the British summit in a career which has been steady without being spectacular. Reeves, in fact, calls her well-known consistency on all four pieces of apparatus - vault, asymmetric bars, beam and floor - her greatest attribute.

As well as her capture of the British title, her outstanding achievement last year was to innovate a vault which is named after her. The "Price" was

The girl who put the cartwheel before the horse

ratified by the Federation Internationale de Gymnastique (FIG) and is now listed in the Code of Points, the FIG's rule book, alongside other famous vaults such as the Tsukahara and Yurchenko. This is a rare distinction for a British gymnast.

The vault begins with a cartwheel with a quarter turn on to the springboard followed by a flick on to the vaulting horse, and ends with a full body twist off the horse before landing. It is difficult to execute and the inventor herself achieves greater success in competition with a simpler vault - a full twist on to the horse and a full twist off.

Miss Price became a gymnast in her home town of Wolverhampton when, as she says, she "got hooked at the age of seven." Previously she went to ballet and tap dancing classes but her dance teacher suggested that she had special aptitude for the tough-and-tumble structure of gymnastics. Teacher was right. By the age of 14, she was an established schools' international and a member of the British elite squad. In 1981, she won a Daily Mirror scholarship to train for a month in the Soviet Union with leading coaches.

After becoming All-England schools' champion, her progress was checked by a cartilage operation but she made a triumphant comeback at the 1982 Coca-Cola International at Wembley when she won a gold medal for her vaulting.

Exacting sessions

Miss Price joined her present club three years ago and since then has trained hard with Reeves for three hours a day, six days a week. Her father drives her down the motorway for her evening sessions. Very often, she "sleeps on the way home." Reeves says: "Sometimes I wish she would take things a little easier. Improvement can't be found every night." Apart from club work, she usually joins the British squad at the Lilleshall national gymnastics centre at weekends and competes in a national or international event once a month on average.

For Los Angeles she has concentrated on polishing her present routines and until last month all training was devoted with her A-levels. An Olympic medal is perhaps beyond her grasp but she could qualify as one of the 36 finalists for the overall title.

Belliss and Wood set to meet in final

By Gordon Allan

Barring calamities only four players now have a chance of winning the world championship singles final at Aberdeen on Saturday. They are David Bryant (England), the defending champion, and Willie Wood (Scotland) in section A, and Peter Belliss (New Zealand) and Ken Williams (Australia) in section B. Each has 12 points.

If they finish level on points in their respective sections, shots differentials are Wood 43, Bryant 24, Belliss 49, and Williams 32. On that basis, and provided they win their remaining matches, Wood and Belliss seem likely to play for the gold medal.

Today, Wood v David Corkill (Ireland), Bryant v Ron Jones (Canada), Belliss v Mike Nicolle (Guernsey), Williams v John Jones (Jersey). Tomorrow, Bryant v Shaun Patton (Fiji), Wood v David Thompson (Switzerland), Williams v Julian Danvers (Argentina), Belliss v Bill Haining (Malawi), Bryant v James Haggarty (Kenya), Wood v Cecil Bransky (Israel), Williams v Graham Croft (Papua, New Guinea), Belliss v Fred Petras (Western Samoa).

The probable four finalists on Friday are England and New Zealand, who lost their quarter-finals to Wales as night fell on Monday. New Zealand lead section A with 12 points, two ahead of Swaziland who have played one game more. England lead section B with 14 points, four ahead of Jersey. Scotland and Australia, all of whom have a game in hand.

RUGBY LEAGUE Injured Britons leave tour early to recover

Wellington (Reuters) - Three injured British players will leave the tour of New Zealand early in the hope of getting fit for next season. Garry Schofield, Harry Pinner and Ray Ashton will probably fly home on Friday.

Pinner, the St Helens' captain, who has been out for the past month with a leg injury, said: "I want a full course of treatment to get my leg right." Schofield has a bruised fracture of the shin and will be out for four weeks. Ashton was due to play last week but broke down in training with a back injury. No replacements will be called, the manager, Dick Gommell, said.

Britain, who have lost the first two games of their three-match test series, meet South Island at Christchurch tomorrow night. Scotland will play New Zealand at St Helens' on Saturday. Scotland will play New Zealand at St Helens' on Saturday. Scotland will play New Zealand at St Helens' on Saturday.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds			
Unit Name	High Bid	Low Bid	Offer Yield
1. American Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
2. British American Insurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
3. Commercial Union Assurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
4. Fidelity Assurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
5. General Insurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
6. Industrial Assurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
7. Life Assurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
8. Marine Insurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
9. Mutual Assurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
10. National Assurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
11. Overseas Assurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
12. Pacific Assurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
13. Royal Assurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
14. Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
15. South Sea Insurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
16. Swiss Assurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
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98. JKL Insurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00
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100. PQR Insurance Co. Ltd.	100.00	99.95	100.00

Law Report July 25 1984

Overseas income of wife not counted for husband's UK tax

Inland Revenue Commissioners v Addison
Before Mr Justice Mervyn Davies
[Judgment delivered July 13]

A British subject resident in Zimbabwe and in receipt of United Kingdom income was entitled to the full amount of personal relief against his liability to income tax. His wife's earned income was not chargeable to UK tax and was not to be included as part of his "total income" so that the provisions of section 27(2) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 did not apply to restrict the amount of relief to which he was entitled.

Mr Justice Mervyn Davies so held in the Chancery Division in dismissing an application by the Crown from the determination of the special commissioners who allowed Mr Joseph Addison the full amount of relief against his liability to tax for 1979-80 and 1980-81.

Mr Robert Carruthers for the Crown; Mr Addison did not appear and was not represented.

MR JUSTICE MERVYN DAVIES said that Mr Addison was a British subject resident in Zimbabwe. He worked for British Rail and had a pension that was subject to UK tax.

He had no foreign income in his own right but in 1974 he married in Zimbabwe. His wife had an income as a teacher in Zimbabwe. That income was not subject to UK tax.

There thus arose the question whether or not his wife's income was to be taken into account in assessing any personal allowance to which Mr Addison was entitled.

Section 8(1)(a) of the 1970 Act provided that a husband's income was to be taken into account in assessing any personal allowance to which he was entitled.

But under section 27(2) he was, as

a British subject who was non-resident, only so entitled "provided that no such relief as aforesaid shall be given so as to reduce the amount of the income tax payable by that individual below the amount which results from applying the fraction A/B to the amount which would be payable by him by way of income tax... if the tax were chargeable on his total income from all sources (including income which is not subject to income tax charged in the United Kingdom) where A is the amount of his income subject to income tax charged in the United Kingdom, and B is the amount of his total income."

The taxpayer's case was that by invoking sections 528 and 57 of the Act "his total income" was his total income from all sources estimated in accordance with the provisions of the Income Tax Acts and that such estimation included his wife's income, but only if, the wife's income was chargeable to UK tax.

The commissioners had accepted that submission. They had agreed that the provisions of section 57 whereby a woman's income chargeable to income tax should be deemed for income tax purposes to be the income of her husband and that income was chargeable to UK tax.

His Lordship said that his view was in line with that of the special commissioners. That was to say that in the section 27(2) proviso "his total income" did not include Mrs Addison's income because such income was not to be deemed Mr Addison's income in that Mrs Addison's income was not chargeable to UK income tax.

The Crown's appeal was accordingly dismissed.

Solicitors: Solicitors of Inland Revenue.

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Letters rogatory not apt for company inquiry

In re International Power Industries Incorporated

The High Court had no power under the Evidence (Proceedings in Other Jurisdictions) Act 1975 to comply with a request by letters rogatory from a Californian District Bankruptcy Court that witnesses be required to give evidence and produce documents before an examiner in the United Kingdom, where the purpose of the request was only to obtain information as to the conduct of the affairs of a company under investigation by the Californian court.

Mr Justice Woolf so held in a judgment in open court on July 18 after a chambers hearing in the Queen's Bench Division.

HIS LORDSHIP said that it was clear from the speeches of the House of Lords in *Re Tinto Zinc Corporation v Wainwright* [1978] AC 363, that a request for letters rogatory was not an exercise which the High Court should be ordered to be performed pursuant to letters rogatory, and was distinct from obtaining evidence for trial.

Just as it was inappropriate to use the 1975 Act for the purposes of discovery where there was to be a trial, so it was inappropriate to use the Act where the exercise for the court was one of discovery and no proceedings would result in a trial.

While the object of the 1975 Act, and the Hague Convention on the Taking of Evidence Abroad in Civil or Commercial Matters of 1970 (Cmd 3991, 6727) to which the Act gave effect, was to assist in the determination of a dispute between one body and another, it was not designed as a fact finding machinery for the purpose of an investigation of a company, such as that in the present case.

Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code.

MR JUSTICE GLIDWELL said that the appellant, David Anthony Sandwell, aged 37, of Luton, had pleaded guilty at Bedford Crown Court (Judge Kingham) to two separate indictments each charging driving while disqualified.

On the first indictment he was disqualified for 12 months under section 33 of the Road Traffic Act 1972. On the second indictment the disqualification was for 12 months,

'Proceedings' includes criminal trial

Regina v Smith (Thomas George)

"Proceedings" within the meaning of that word as employed in section 243(1)(a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971, as amended by the Local Government Act 1981, included criminal proceedings under section 89(1) and (2).

Mr Justice Mann so stated on July 18 when, sitting with Lord Justice Kerr and Mr Justice Tudor, he gave the judgment of the Court of Appeal, dismissing the appeal of Thomas George Smith against his conviction on a plea of guilty (after a ruling by the trial judge) on September 25, 1983 after a chambers hearing in the Queen's Bench Division.

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which the judge stated was to be consecutive, and he imposed a further period, also expressed to be consecutive, of six months under section 194(1) of the Transport Act 1981, on taking previous disqualifications into account.

His Lordship said that disqualification for 30 months would have been the result of the application of section 194(1) of the 1981 Act, there was no power to impose consecutive periods of disqualification. In any event, the disqualification for 12 months was less than the statutory minimum under section 194(1)(b).

Mr Drew had argued that, in the light of section 11(3) of the 1968 Act, their Lordships were obliged to disqualify for no more than 12 months on any one indictment. However, the court on appeal not infrequently substituted for two indictments a single indictment or equivalent term concurrent on each of two counts. The same could be done with regard to disqualification.

Substituted for the 12 months' disqualification on the second indictment would be a period of two years for the offence and one of 12 months under section 194(1)(b), all being concurrent with the 12 months on the first indictment.

Solicitors: Knowles, Cave & Co, Luton.

Substituting driving bans for separate offences

Regina v Sandwell

Before Lord Justice Dunn, Mr Justice Glidwell and Sir Roger Ormrod

[Judgment delivered July 12]

"Taking the case as a whole" in section 11(3) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 meant taking into account the matters in dispute of which an appellant against sentence was being dealt with in the court below.

Mr Justice Glidwell so stated when giving the judgment of the Court of Appeal allowing an appeal against consecutive periods of disqualification totalling 30 months and substituting concurrent terms amounting to two years.

Mr Christopher Drew, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Philip Matthews as *amicus curiae*.

MR JUSTICE GLIDWELL said that the appellant, David Anthony Sandwell, aged 37, of Luton, had pleaded guilty at Bedford Crown Court (Judge Kingham) to two separate indictments each charging driving while disqualified.

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Substituted for the 12 months' disqualification on the second indictment would be a period of two years for the offence and one of 12 months under section 194(1)(b), all being concurrent with the 12 months on the first indictment.

Solicitors: Knowles, Cave & Co, Luton.

MR JUSTICE GLIDWELL said that the appellant, David Anthony Sandwell, aged 37, of Luton, had pleaded guilty at Bedford Crown Court (Judge Kingham) to two separate indictments each charging driving while disqualified.

On the first indictment he was disqualified for 12 months under section 33 of the Road Traffic Act 1972. On the second indictment the disqualification was for 12 months,

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

I need an energetic, hard working person to help with my wife's business and personal affairs. Successful applicant will have excellent memory and will pay attention to detail. He will assist and advise in all matters with clients at the highest level. Competitive salary. Small, busy office in W. Please telephone me on 01-735 1771.

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A lively secretary required for small business. Must be energetic, efficient, and able to work independently. Good salary. Apply to: 407-5577. No agencies.

EDITORIAL SECRETARY
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PAUSE 25-26/09/90. Public Relations Director of leading PA. Must be energetic, efficient, and able to work independently. Good salary. Apply to: 407-5577. No agencies.

FRANCO ARDINI. 21 year old son of a well known family. Must be energetic, efficient, and able to work independently. Good salary. Apply to: 407-5577. No agencies.

CHAIRMAN (LADY) of International Community. Must be energetic, efficient, and able to work independently. Good salary. Apply to: 407-5577. No agencies.

TELEVISION. 21 year old son of a well known family. Must be energetic, efficient, and able to work independently. Good salary. Apply to: 407-5577. No agencies.

2ND JOBBERS. With some advertising experience. Must be energetic, efficient, and able to work independently. Good salary. Apply to: 407-5577. No agencies.

SECRETARY. Good salary. Apply to: 407-5577. No agencies.

SIC REQUIRED by large underwriter. Must be energetic, efficient, and able to work independently. Good salary. Apply to: 407-5577. No agencies.

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EAST MALLING RESEARCH STATION

PERSONAL ASSISTANT/SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR
Due to retirement a vacancy will occur in late October for a mature secretary able to provide a full secretarial/personal assistant service to the Director.

Previous experience in a similar capacity essential. Minimum qualifications: 2 GCE 'O' levels including English language, RSA stage III advanced typewriting and 100 wpm shorthand.

Salary scale £5,588 - £7,072 (plus proficiency allowances). Non-contributory superannuation scheme.

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PR Consultant in Regent's Park. Must be energetic, efficient, and able to work independently. Good salary. Apply to: 407-5577. No agencies.

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Very active film company. Must be energetic, efficient, and able to work independently. Good salary. Apply to: 407-5577. No agencies.

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Multi-lingual
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If you're already some W.P. experience and would like to gain more, talk to us about this friendly Chancery Lane firm of surveyors.

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To work directly with the M.D. of this leading firm of computer manufacturers. You'll need to be a good organiser and communicator.

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£7,000 - £8,000. A rewarding job with plenty of responsibility. You'll run the office, supervise a junior, organise exhibitions, possibly some travel. Knowledge of French/German preferable.

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Leading international consultancy. You'll need to be organised and have team spirit. Varied work with a fair amount of telephone work.

DIRECTORS SEC KNIGHTSBRIDGE
£7,500. Luxurious offices, young, dynamic environment and the chance to get involved in responsible work all offered by this thriving shipping company.

ALFRED MARKS
We have a lot to offer

The Hay Group is the world's largest human resources consultancy with the UK headquarters in Victoria where the following opportunities are based.

Secretary (S/H & Audio)

To work for the female consultant who heads up our legal recruitment and selection file. Ideally you will be a graduate second jobber with a mature approach, to maintain and develop credibility with our professional clients. Good organiser with initiative.

Audio Secretary

To provide a full secretarial service covering travel arrangements, diaries, typing reports, and telephone contact with clients. A strong admin. element is included. Able to cope with pressure, be flexible and able to deal with clients in a professional manner. Word processing experience required.

WP Operator

To operate the Wang. Occasionally you will be called upon to stand in for an absent secretary. Good telephone manner and personal presentation together with a flexible attitude will be essential attributes.

Fast Accurate Typist with good Admin. skills

For our advertising agency. Your key role as Account Executive will be to provide a first class support service to one of our Account Managers. It's a fast moving environment. You will be dealing with clients on the telephone (often meeting them), establishing media deadlines, carrying out typing and admin. duties. There will be a lot of competing demands for your time which can offer a high degree of job satisfaction.

FOR ALL POSTS we require typing speeds of at least 60 to 70. Salaries are negotiable and benefits include 60p per day LV's. Our modern offices are located opposite Victoria Station.

Please contact Vicki Green, HAY-MSL, Management Consultants Group Limited on 01-725 0833.

HAY-MSL
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Go on... Make the move!

You've been telling yourself for weeks that you would like something different - now it's time for the taking.

If you would like to do temporary work here is a service that really is different. It's a service with lots and lots of work so you would be in great demand.

It's a service that puts your best interests first - it's a service that shows its difference by giving you holiday pay, free training, top assignments and doesn't pay its branch staff commission, so you will be dealing with true professionals trained to find you the right assignment.

So, if you genuinely want something different, don't settle for second best! Here are some of last week's assignments that you could have been working on.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Marketing Director of Multi-national Co. Westminster

SHORTHAND SECRETARY P.R. Company, Knightsbridge

T.E.M. DISPLAYWRITER OPERATOR Film Co. West End

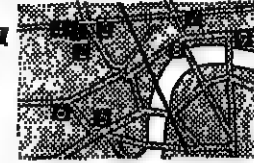
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for branches
1-6



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7-9



Go on-Make the move to Kelly Girl

Try the difference

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Investment Marketing

City c£9K package

The TSB Trust Company, based in Andover, is the unit trust and insurance subsidiary of the TSB Group.

At our modern city offices we have recently created a broker liaison department that has responsibility for marketing our successful unit trust services to a range of professional intermediaries.

This is a new post with responsibility for providing a first class secretarial/PA service to the Manager.

Your duties will include setting up office procedures, dealing with a variety of people both inside the Company and in the professional market. Above all, you will be required to use initiative, particularly in the regular absence of the Manager. You will also be required to actively participate in certain social functions, so occasional travel can be anticipated.

TSB TRUST COMPANY
The Grosvenor Bureau Staff Consultants

£10,000 Knightsbridge

This international company will pay a high salary with excellent benefits for the right person. You must be aged 24-30, have 'A' level education, W.P. experience & fast accurate typing, be at least 5'6" tall. As far as work experience is concerned you must have a stable background, have worked for a least 3 years. You will be familiar with other a technical or an environment. If you are confident & enjoy working in a young interesting company please telephone.

01-499 0082 or 493 5907

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FIRST JOBBERS FOR TELEVISION £6,500

A leading television company is looking for college leavers with excellent secretarial skills. Minimum to work initially as "first jobber" around the company learning the ins and outs of television.

There is a great potential for the keen & well qualified, so why not call us today on

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Staff Consultants

SECRETARY/RESEARCHER c. £9,000 + benefits

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35 Old Bond Street, W1 (Recruitment Consultants)

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We are looking for ambitious self-motivated people, aged 25-40, to join our team with previous experience in an employment agency. We seek people who consider they offer a high level of service with personal commitment to clients needs. We offer excellent rewards, P.P.P. and an opportunity to take up share within a successful expanding company.

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Young energetic person needed, typing 65 wpm. Shorthand & Audio typing. Send c.v. to:

Wendy Cohen

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If you enjoy the City and would like to use your French consistently, we have an opening for an assistant secretary with a successful firm of American stockbrokers. Working for a French national you will be required to provide excellent backup and cope during his absence abroad. Good telephone manner and skills of 100/60. Age 24-27. Call 588 3535

Crone Corkill

TEMP TOP RATES PLUS PERMANENT JOBS

AT £8,000 - £11,000
At the moment our temporary division has several vacancies looking for permanent secretaries. For example a 1st class bilingual French PA, French & English shorthand, 100/60, able to cope under pressure, senior level experience required for this American Investment Bank. Salary £10,500. 01 499 0082 or 493 5907

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PERSONNEL ASSISTANT £9,000

City Insurance Co. requires a person capable of running a personnel function. Duties will range from recruitment to pension and health schemes.

Call Andrew BARNET PERSONNEL 629 7630

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Buy Managing Director of WOL computer software company requires P.A. Capable of running the day to day affairs of a successful small company. Could be excellent opportunity for bright graduates. Please reply in writing to:

Box No 22177 THE TIMES

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An unusual job with many very interesting responsibilities coupled with some rather boring duties including Telex! It is working in the sophisticated of exploration dept of a small but substantial West End German oil company as admin secretary to some 15 geologists and geophysicists. Their ages range 20-35 years with a good spread of nationalities. The pace is fast and it is important that applicants, who should be well groomed and polished, enjoy working under pressure; have an eye for detail and can cope with the fast and furious of a busy cosmopolitan dept which is very much at the sharp end of a highly successful international business. Excellent working conditions & fringe benefits inc free travel, flexi pay with good saving and some WP (will suit) age 25-30 years.

499 9175
MacBlain
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
16 Hanover Square London W1

£11,000 DUAL ROLE P.A.

Can you split yourself in half? The first half will be helping to fund international projects as diverse as a hotel complex in the Caribbean to a chicken farm in Dorset. The other half will deal with people - as back-up and support to a busy Personnel Consultant. Hard work but real involvement and constant variety.

Directors' Secretaries
Tel 01 629 9323

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In the eye-succeeding world of high technology you will be assisting the senior executive of this rapidly expanding company to organise the day to day running of the company. You will be responsible for office administration and some basic book-keeping. Your potential will develop alongside that of the company, aided by your maturity, flexibility and initiative. For interview, please telephone 01-728 8491

ANGELA MORTIMER

Professional PA £9,500

If you're looking for responsibility and a challenge, two senior partners in this friendly and successful City firm need a confident, reliable P.A. to assist them and become totally involved in their work. Most of your duties will be administrative, involving considerable liaison with clients, detailed preparation for meetings and upkeep of client files. You need 'A' level education, senior level secretarial experience and speeds of 80/60. Age 25-40. Ring 588 3535

Crone Corkill

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3 extremely special PAs with superb administrative skills are needed for a major recruitment company. If you have a background in recruitment, are capable of setting up and running an overseas office and are under 40, you may rise to the challenge. Please apply to: 377 8500 (City) 439 7801 (West End)

Secretaries Plus
The Recruitment Consultants

Poised? Confident? Composed?

Our UK Sales Manager Needs You!

We are a young British company who are developing, marketing and supporting ARTEMIS - a project management information computer system. Our clients range from small consultancies to multinationals and government departments with operations throughout the world.

Our UK Sales Manager now needs an extremely well-organised PA/Secretary who can carry out his routine work efficiently, plan his schedule and keep his office running like clockwork. On top of normal secretarial duties you will collect information for and sometimes draft the Monthly Sales Report, arrange conferences and liaise with all levels of management and staff. Friendly and able to work well in a team, you'll not only have fast accurate shorthand and typing but also a sound knowledge of word processing and data entry. Your ability to work well under pressure will be coupled with several years of good, solid secretarial experience - ideally gained in a sales environment.

This is a busy, varied, responsible position where you'll be able to use your ideas and initiative to the full. Based in our prestigious new offices in Central Hayes, you'll enjoy a salary of c£8,000, 4 weeks holiday, free BUPA and life assurance, contributory pension and sports and social club.

For an early interview, please send cv to: Sheila Tucker, Personnel Manager, Metier Management Systems Ltd., Metier House, 23 Clayton Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB8 1AN.

METIER

CJES

35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576
Telex: 867374

Career position - opportunity exists to take on management responsibilities

P.A. TO CHAIRMAN c£9,000-£11,500

We invite applications from well-spoken, educated candidates with a minimum of 5 years' experience at senior director level and excellent shorthand and typing, to act as P.A. to a Chairman with varied ranging financial and marketing interests. The successful applicant will have the commitment to learn how the business works, and will act as an extension to the Chairman, ensuring the smooth running of his busy professional and private life. A financial/commercial background would be helpful as there is scope to undertake research into companies, and generally assist on the venture capital/business broking side of the business. Poles, precision, self-motivation, enthusiasm and calm efficiency under pressure are essential for this senior appointment. Initial remuneration negotiable £9,000-£11,500 plus good Company benefits. Applications in strict confidence under reference CPA 615/TT to the Managing Director:

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25 New Broad Street, London EC2A 1NJ
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576. Telex: 867374, Fax: 01-638 9216

INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHING CO MAYFAIR

A wonderful opportunity for 2 candidates to enter the exciting world of publishing. The International Publishing Co. is looking for someone with excellent shorthand and typing skills, a background in publishing, and a keen interest in the book trade. Salary up to £10,000. The winning candidate will be offered a 3 month probationary period, followed by a 12 month contract. Salary up to £10,000. For full details of this position with its excellent benefits, contact: 377 8500 City 439 7801 West End

Bernadette of Bond St.
Recruitment Consultants
No 35, just down to the Financial

Secretaries Plus
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TO £10,000 FILM FINANCE

Your personal qualities of calmness, poise and good will presentation are more important than a financial background to the Chairman of a leading film finance company. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the company, ensuring the smooth running of his busy professional and private life. A financial/commercial background would be helpful as there is scope to undertake research into companies, and generally assist on the venture capital/business broking side of the business. Poles, precision, self-motivation, enthusiasm and calm efficiency under pressure are essential for this senior appointment. Initial remuneration negotiable £9,000-£11,500 plus good Company benefits. Applications in strict confidence under reference CPA 615/TT to the Managing Director:

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25 New Broad Street, London EC2A 1NJ
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576. Telex: 867374, Fax: 01-638 9216

"A" LEVELS/DEGREE? to £9,500

Pending up-to-the minute information for the right person. You must be aged 24-30, have 'A' level education, W.P. experience & fast accurate typing, be at least 5'6" tall. As far as work experience is concerned you must have a stable background, have worked for a least 3 years. You will be familiar with other a technical or an environment. If you are confident & enjoy working in a young interesting company please telephone.

01-499 0082 or 493 5907

Senior Secretaries

LONG TERM TEMP REQUIRED

Shorthand secretary to work for General Manager of prestigious company in West End. Salary negotiable. To start September for approx 6 months.

Contact Annette Johnson on 499 9871 (no agencies)

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Secretary with good English Shorthand and fluent French for Fashion Company S.W.3. Varied duties with some administrative work and telex. Excellent clothes allowance and other benefits.

For further details Veronica Lapa 937 6525

CENTRUM

CONFERENCE PROMOTION £8-10,000

You will be aged 20-25, be the most enthusiastic and well organized candidate we will interview and be looking for a challenging career outside the secretarial field. You will be responsible for selling and promoting major seminars throughout the UK. Total commitment will be expected, putting the company before all else. In return this prestigious position will offer you a fantastic career prospect and amazing earning potential.

Call Jane Parlane today on 01-870 5021 or Helen Dutton on 01-738 2266.

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Privately owned Mayfair consultancy requires senior person with either secretarial recruitment or personnel experience. Ability to maintain and develop own clientele with complete in house support. Excellent basic plus commission without target. In confidence telephone Lyn Morgan on

01-629 7838

HURRAY FOR HOLLYWOOD £7,500

A top Producer of Value Cinema seeks a PA/Secretary to a Director. He is a pleasant man with a good sense of humor and seeks a bright on the ball person to assist him. They are responsible for running the latest Hollywood film sets with complete 90/90 skills needed. They will also have you to operate the latest video process.

01-236 372 City 01-499 8070 West End

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

BOOKKEEPER/ SECRETARY ADVERTISING

West End agency needs bookkeeper to take personal charge of the agency's advertising requirements. This is an ideal opportunity for a competent bookkeeper willing to be involved in advertising.

The salary offered is dependent on experience. Please write with full CV to: Julia Bennett, Adcom Corporate and Financial Communications, 17 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6JL.

M.D.'s SECRETARY c.£10,000

For the happiest of reasons, our M.D.'s Secretary is leaving Selfridges shortly and we need to find a very special person to replace her. A combination of administrator, P.R. officer, 'minder', and confidante is what we have in mind!

Obviously, you'll need first-class qualifications and experience, proven at the highest level. Experience in a 'people' oriented business would be especially useful - eg with an airline, travel company, or in retailing itself. You'll also need to be prepared for a hectic and demanding working life, sometimes involving erratic hours but invariably fascinating and full of job satisfaction. You'll have your own junior Secretary to help things run smoothly.

The job carries management status and, in addition to the negotiable salary, offers excellent benefits including valuable shopping discounts, health scheme, and interest-free season-ticket loan.

To apply, please send full details of your education and experience to: Rosemary Martin, Personnel Manager, Selfridges Limited, 400 Oxford Street, London W1

Selfridges

SECRETARY to General Manager

c£8,250 + benefits Age 24 to 30 City based Chandos Insurance, a recently established and expanding London market reinsurer, seeks a secretary for its general manager who will also act as the receptionist for his underwriters.

The successful candidate will be a non smoker and have the sense of humour and ability to deal with people at all levels in person or on the telephone. You should be sufficiently organised, well educated and numerate to screen all of the general managers mail and reports.

As a subsidiary of the Bass Group, all benefits normally associated with a large group are available. Please apply in writing enclosing a full CV to:

Mrs S. Allen
CHANDOS INSURANCE COMPANY LTD
14 Fenchurch Avenue, London EC3M 5BS

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Substantial family home with garage & pool.
beds, 2 bath, recip, kitchen/dining rm.
p.v. Computer preferred.

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Fully furnished & equipped 2nd floor flat.
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Devonshire Close, W.11
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Part furnished, 4/5 beds, 1/2
bath, shower room, 2 bath,
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partial adn. Close to Hurlingham
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LUXURY SERVICE Apartments available for rent in the following areas: **13247 p.w.** available August 1, 1984. Call 312-442-4421. **13247 p.w.** available August 1, 1984. Call 312-442-4421.

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